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The Strokes deliver a colorful show at The Norva, page 11.

VARIETY:
Scofield wins first place at local Autumn Festival, page 12.

The Flat Hat

VARIETY:
Volleyball goes 1-2 for the week, defeating George Mason



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<http://flathat.wm.edu>



ALEX HAGLUND • THE FLAT HAT

The UC dining hall was cited with nine critical health violations, tied for the most of any restaurant in Williamsburg, according to the state.

State: UC is tops in City for critical health violations

BY ANDY GARDEN
THE FLAT HAT

The University Center — Center Court dining hall received the dubious distinction of tying for the most critical health violations of any eatery in Williamsburg, according to its most recent inspection with the Virginia Department of Health in May. The UC was charged with 27 violations of the state health code, nine of them critical, in its unannounced inspection. Milano's restaurant, located at 1635 Richmond Rd., was also cited for nine critical violations. The UC's violations were corrected after the inspection.

The VDH cited the UC for violations including employee drinks left uncovered, cooked chicken and cream cheese at temperatures unacceptable for the prevention of bacterial growth and soiled soda dispenser nozzles.

The department's website classifies critical violations as those "more likely than other violations to directly contribute to food contamination, illness or environmental degradation. Such problems can create environments that cause bacteria to grow and thrive, which puts the consumer at risk for food-borne illness."

Non-critical violations include those "not directly related to the cause of food-borne illness, but if uncorrected, could impede the operation of the restaurant," according to the VDH's website.

Jeff Brackett, director of University Center Dining, said the UC re-

sponded immediately to the report.

"I did an action plan that afternoon, in fact," Brackett said. "The only items that took as much as 72 hours [to correct] were items where we had to have a contractor come in. The policy issues were addressed within 12 hours."

Phil DiBenedetto, director of College Dining Services, said dining services has plans to correct violations.

"Action plans for the dining halls address specific issues as well as general safety procedures," DiBenedetto said. "We put the cause and what our actions are going to be to correct it."

The Virginia Department of health said that the high number of violations is an isolated problem.

"Historically, inspections at the University Center have not been cause for alarm and the May inspection is not typical of their routine operation. An inspection conducted on any given day may not be representative of the overall, long-term cleanliness of an establishment or the subsequent risk for food-borne illness," Carol Puckett of the VDH said in an e-mail to The Flat Hat.

"Also, at the time of the inspection violations are recorded, but are often corrected on the spot prior to the inspector leaving the establishment," Puckett added. According to the VDH's website, three of the critical violations were corrected during the inspection. These violations

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Freshmen elect Snell to lead class

BY ANGELA COTA
THE FLAT HAT

The Class of 2010 elected Ali Snell president yesterday, and eight other freshmen winners were announced to their positions, as well as the winner of the special election for Vice President for Advocacy for the class of 2007.

Snell said she wants to hold a book sale, socials, fundraisers, spirit contests and develop an e-mail system for communication.

"I want to find out what freshman classes have done in the past and make it even better," she said.

"This was an insanely tough campaign, and I really respect all the candidates."

Snell cited the community here as her reason for running.

"I came here not knowing anyone and I just felt so much at home here when I arrived, so I'm honored the freshman class has put their faith in me."

Candidates were notified of their victories at the Library Tavern last night. The SA Election Commission ran the election, and SIN ran the voting process. The polls were open yesterday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Kristian Obceman, who was elected Vice President for Social Affairs, said she feels freshman halls do not interact with each other enough.

"Unity is a big part of this job, so I want to talk to freshman in dorms and find out what kind of activities they want to do and definitely focus on the different dorms interacting," he said.



JONATHAN SEIDEN • THE FLAT HAT

Ali Snell, who was elected freshman class president yesterday, chats with senior Greg Teich after learning about her election victory.

Roxanne Lepore, who was elected Vice President for Advocacy, said she wants to focus on effective class communication.

Laura Nelson, elected secretary, advocates the fun aspects of freshman year. "When people see other people walking to class, I want them to say 'hi' to people not from their dorm," she said. "Freshman year doesn't need to be serious."

Sonam Shah, elected Treasurer, wants to keep spending reasonable.

"My goals are to obviously keep budget reasonable, start more fundraisers and listen to input on where the class wants to spend money," she said.

Four Senators were elected: Sarah Rojas, Scott Morris, Andrew Blasi and Orlando Watson.

Sean Gillick won the 2007 Vice President for Advocacy; elections

for this position were held because no one ran last spring. At the end of last year, the SA sent out applications for those interested in the position and there was an interview process.

"My goals include working with parking services, to try to get a system to pay online, working with the Dean of Students office on appeals and working with class officers on the senior class gift," Gillick said.

Senator Matt Beato, a sophomore and secretary of the senate, and Election Commission Chairman Alex Kyrios, a sophomore, said that mass instant messages were sent to students that said, "Vote Sean GILLICK not Sean Barker he's gay."

Kyrios said there is no evidence to link it to any campaign. If Barker chooses to contest the decision, the

Election winners

Class of 2010

President
Ali Kristine Snell

VP for Advocacy
Roxanne Irene Lepore

VP for Social Affairs
Kristian Q. Obceman

Secretary
Laura Virginia Nelson

Treasurer
Sonam Shah

Senators
(In order of votes)
Sarah Danielle Rojas
Scott Morris
Andrew Bruce Blasi
Orlando Jamel Watson

Class of 2010

VP for Advocacy
Sean Edward Gillick

Elections Commission will consider the issue.

"I have nothing to do with it; it offends me also because it can be construed in a way that looks bad for me," Gillick said. "It was pretty rude of someone to get involved."

Barker said that he is not sure whether he will contest the elections results but may bring the case to the Office of Equal Opportunity.

But overall, Kyrios felt the election ran smoothly.

"There were no real concerns besides some posting violations," he said.

SA to court student-friendly delly replacement

BY MORGAN FIGA
THE FLAT HAT

The Student Assembly senate passed a revised version of the Defense of Nightlife Act at their meeting Tuesday.

The bill aims to challenge plans for Starbucks to replace and lease the College Delly. The original bill, passed at the Sept. 19 meeting was vetoed by SA President Ryan Scofield. In an e-mail to senators, Scofield explained that the veto was not an objection to the original bill, but rather a request to amend it in order to give the SA more control over what happens to the Delly property.

The bill, which passed 8-6-0, maintains student support for the Delly. Added is a provision that allows the SA to research other stu-

dent-friendly businesses if the Delly chooses to leave the property. SA Vice President Amanda Norris, a senior, mentioned the possibility of a nightclub or a sub-sandwich shop moving into the property instead of a Starbucks. The new bill still maintains the original bill's opposition to Starbucks moving into the Delly property and looks to coordinate student efforts to preserve nightlife on and off campus.

During the meeting, Sen. Zach Pilchen, a sophomore and the bill's sponsor, advocated the amendment, saying that if the Delly is replaced, students should push for a business that would enhance campus nightlife. He said students should have a right to find a business that meets

See **SA** + page 4



ALEX HAGLUND • THE FLAT HAT

Student Assembly Vice President Amanda Norris and Senate Chair Scott Fitzgerald, both seniors, preside over the SA senate meeting Tuesday.

NCAA WOES



IRENE ROJAS • THE FLAT HAT

A student protests the NCAA's recent decision to ban the use of Tribe's feathers at the football game last Friday.

Facebook reportedly in \$1 billion negotiation with Yahoo

BY KARA STARR
THE FLAT HAT

Internet giant Yahoo! Inc. is in talks to purchase Facebook.com for as much as \$1 billion, the Wall Street Journal reported Sept. 21.

In March, Facebook.com founder Mark Zuckerberg reportedly rejected a \$750 million acquisition offer. According to the March 28 edition of Business Week, Facebook.com was looking for a \$2 billion deal. Facebook.com representatives declined to comment on the possibility of a future acquisition.

"I would never say that at no point in the future would we go public or become part of a larger company ... but what I would say is [that] it's not our priority," Zuckerberg said in an interview with The Wall Street Journal.

Facebook.com is the seventh-most visited site on the internet, according to marketing researcher

comScore Media Metrix, and it attracted 5.5 billion page views last February. The social networking site has upward of nine million registered users that span more than 40,000 networks.

Facebook.com is privately owned and headquartered in Palo Alto, Calif., and has caught the attention of many corporations because of its potential to gear profitable advertising toward teenagers and college students. Zuckerberg started Facebook.com during his sophomore year at Harvard University.

Recent corporate acquisitions of other social network sites include MySpace.com, which in July 2005 sold for \$580 million to News Corp., the parent company of Fox News, and iVillage.com, a network for women, which sold for \$600 million to General Electric Co. in March.

Staggered expansion has been a major factor in Facebook.com's rising popularity. First open only to

Harvard students, the website then expanded to include colleges across the country and the world. This past year, high school students gained access to the network. Facebook.com announced Tuesday that it will open its network to anyone who receives an invitation from a current member.

Although nine million users may seem to be an indication of Facebook.com's success, MySpace boasts over 109 million users. Unlike Facebook.com, MySpace does not require an invitation or affiliation with any institution to join.

"Our focus is on building a revolutionary product ... so more of our user's friends can be part of the Facebook experience. Providing our users with detailed privacy controls will continue to be a priority for Facebook," Facebook.com spokeswoman Brandee Barker said in the Sept. 11 edition of The Washington Post.

College condemns anti-gay vandalism

BY HEATHER KEELON
THE FLAT HAT

A bulletin board at the College's Marshall-Wythe School of Law belonging to the Lesbian and Gay Law Association was vandalized with anti-gay slurs last Friday. The board was focused on the upcoming Virginia Marriage Amendment, which would define marriage as a union between men and women, set to appear on the ballot this fall.

The board, containing reasons not to vote for the legislation, was crossed out and

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Over 1,000 people flock to Farmer's Market for fresh fruit, fun.
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Ludacris's new album shows maturity, but tracks remain danceable. Page 14



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Tribe football routs VMI 38-6, improving to 1-2 on the season.
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Beyond the 'Burg

◆ U. VA STUDENT GRADUATES WITH DOUBLE MAJOR IN ONE YEAR

(U-WIRE) CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. - The word “brave” could easily be applied to first-year College student David Banh, who is graduating from the University of Virginia this year.

Banh said a big reason for graduating in one year was financial. “A lot of it was financial motivations,” Banh said. “... I have some scholarships this year but they expire at the end of this year. And I had always planned to graduate a year or a year and a half earlier anyways, so it just made sense.”

Banh said his relationship with his parents was another factor in his decision to graduate early.

“My parents have always been supportive in the way they raised me,” Banh said. “They would always make me feel like I wasn’t working hard enough. Now doing this, they can’t really say anything. Because you can’t question if I am doing my best, if not pretty close to it. They definitely don’t call me as much as to how I am doing, because I think they pretty much realize that I am very busy.”

Banh said he finds his reasons for graduating with only one year of university under his belt to be quite reasonable.

“The roots of me wanting to do this is pretty normal and understandable,” Banh said. “I am not a megalomaniac. I am doing this because of financial reasons and because I am getting a reward out of it.”

Banh is able to graduate this year due to the combination of numerous credits he received from his Advanced Placement classes in high school and an exhaustive schedule during his time at U.Va.

“I came to U.Va. with 72 hours of AP credit, which really helped out,” Banh said. “In order to graduate I needed 60 credits at U.Va. so I cancelled the credits I received for Calc I and Calc II and took 23 credits last semester and I am taking 37 credits this semester.” ...

Banh, who is majoring in math and physics, said the context of his majors made it easier to accomplish his goal. ...

Still, Banh has seen negative effects of his heavy course load.

“My grades have definitely suffered,” Banh said. “They are not as good as they could be. I still have a 3.7, but if I was taking four or five classes, I can’t see myself getting less than a 3.95. I am rather banking on this strange story of graduating in one year to explain as to why my grades are not higher.”

Banh has been accepted to the graduate program in U.Va’s math department and was also given a teaching assistant position. ...

Banh said being a graduate student will not hinder his ability to experience an undergraduate lifestyle.

“Yes, I am going to go to grad school next year, but I am still in a housing contract with three of my best friends who were my suitemates,” Banh said. “I am still taking classes. I feel like I can do anything any undergrad can do next year. And if I stay for my Ph.D. then, I will even have longer to enjoy those things.”

— By Defne Gunay, *The Cavalier Daily* (U. Virginia)
— compiled by Maxim Lott

This week in Flat Hat history

1923 Strict code for College freshmen

The code of conduct for freshmen stated, “all freshmen shall attend football practices at least once a week ... freshmen must know all College songs and yells by October 15 ... freshmen shall tip hats and caps to all professors.”

1968 Bomb threat prompts evacuation

A bomb threat forced an evacuation of the Blow Gymnasium just before Dr. Davis Paschall was to speak for an \$81 million bond proposal as part of convocation. College police later decided the threat had been a prank call.

1987 Students protest Contra support

Students protested American support of the Nicaraguan Contras by putting up posters with the names of civilians who had been killed in the conflict. Conservative groups were accused of vandalizing the posters.

1999 SA discovers \$100,000 fund

The Student Assembly discovered that they had control over a \$100,000 surplus in the student activity fund. The sum had been unnoticed previously.

— compiled by Maxim Lott

Corrections

In the Sept. 22 issue of *The Flat Hat*, the page 6 opinion article “Funny or Offensive” was attributed to Rachel Siemon-Carome. The columnist’s name is Rachael Siemon-Carome.

The Flat Hat wishes to correct any facts printed incorrectly. Corrections may be submitted by e-mail to the section editor in which the incorrect information was printed. Requests for corrections will be accepted at any time.

The Flat Hat

‘Stabilitas et Fides’

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◆ NEWS IN BRIEF ◆

Sandra Day O'Connor will speak at College Oct. 7 to 9

The College’s new Chancellor will visit campus and speak for the third time Oct. 7 to 9. On Oct. 7, Sandra Day O’Connor will speak to law students and faculty members at the Kimball Theatre from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Tickets are required.

O’Connor will speak to the general public and students immediately afterward at 5 p.m. The free event will be in room 101 of Andrews Hall.

At 4 p.m. Oct. 9, the Chancellor will hold a question and answer session in the University Center Atrium. The speech is open to students, faculty and staff.

President Gene Nichol expressed his pleasure at O’Connor’s visit. “I join my philosophy and law colleagues and our students in looking forward to hearing from her and once again welcoming her home,” he said.

Parents and families visit College for family weekend

This weekend, the College will offer a host of activities for visiting parents. Among the first events Friday are an exhibition of “Russian Icons in the Age of the Romanovs” in the Muscarelle at 10 a.m. and President Gene Nichol’s reception speech in the Wren Courtyard at 4 p.m.

Friday evening will feature a concert with several College vocal groups, a comedy festival for those 18 and older and lantern tours of Old Campus. Saturday will start with a Tribe football game against Hofstra University at 1 p.m. The day will wrap up with William and Mary Sings, an event at William and Mary Hall featuring student a cappella groups. A detailed schedule of Family Weekend events can be found on the College website.

Ukrop’s to open second store in Williamsburg area

The second Ukrop’s in the Williamsburg area will open Oct. 4 at 7 a.m. Located at 6610 Mooretown Road near Wal-Mart, the new Ukrops occupies a 55,597-square-foot building. It will employ between 150 to 175 workers.

“Since joining the Williamsburg community in 1998, we’ve been delighted by the reception we’ve received from area customers,” Bobby Ukrop, the president and CEO of Ukrop’s, said in a company press release.

\$10 gift certificates will be given to the first 400 customers on opening day.

Mumps case at U.Va prompts campus-wide email

Sam Sadler sent a campus-wide e-mail Tuesday after a U.Va student came down with mumps.

“At William and Mary we have not had a case of mumps, but we are taking steps to do what we can to fend off an outbreak,” Sadler wrote.

Sadler added that students should call the Student Health Center before coming in if they think they have mumps so that the center can make preparations to receive them and keep other students from becoming infected.

According to an article in the Washington Post, common symptoms of mumps are fatigue, loss of appetite, headache, fever and muscle aches.

— articles by Maxim Lott

Victim of Chinese labor camps speaks at College

Four-time Nobel Peace Prize Nominee Harry Wu emphasized the need for change in the Chinese government during a speech about human rights abuses in China at the College Monday. Wu, a Chinese native, spent 19 years of his life in the Laogai, a system of prison camps that emphasize “reform-through-labor.”

“We must recognize the Laogai in China for what it is — a brutal, inhumane system,” Wu said.

Upon his release and subsequent immigration to the United States, Wu dedicated his life to speaking out against Chinese human rights violations. He founded the Laogai Research Foundation and the China Information Center to raise awareness about human rights abuses in China.




As a middle-class Chinese Catholic, Wu said he was a target of the Chinese government. He was released from the Laogai after serving 19 years of a life sentence and immigrated to the United States in 1985.

“If you lost your freedom ... and you get it back, then you’re qualified to say that freedom is priceless,” Wu said.

Wu condemned other Chinese practices, including what he saw as their overuse of the death penalty, censorship, regulations on religion and the one child policy, which requires a family to obtain permits before pregnancy.

“We are human beings. I’m a survivor. I do not know how to change the history, but I want to tell people what is the truth — what happened,” Wu said. “If tomorrow, the Communist system stopped, we still have to talk about it ... Don’t repeat it. We cannot repeat it.”

— by Nik Belanger

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
High 71° Low 53°	High 78° Low 59°	High 78° Low 55°

Source: www.weather.com

WEEKEND WEATHER

POLICE BEAT



Thursday, Sept. 21 — A student reported that his bicycle, worth approximately \$50, was stolen outside of the Campus Center. **1**

Friday, Sept. 22 — A student was found drunk in public near Jamestown South. He was

taken into custody and given two summonses for a DUI and underage possession. **2**

Saturday, Sept. 23 — An ambulance was called after a male student was found passed out behind Unit H. **3**

— A student reported that somebody was passed out near the door of Old Dominion that faces Blow Hall. The suspect, a non-student, was taken to the police station so that his criminal history could be checked. He was then transported to the regional jail. **4**

Sunday, Sept. 24 — A student was arrested for being drunk in public outside Blow Hall. Police took him to the regional jail. **4**

— A caller told police that a male student was not moving outside of the Wren Building. Police found the student and took him to the regional jail for being drunk in public and underage possession. **5**

— The Athletics Department reported that room 124 of William and Mary Hall had been “trashed.” The estimated damage to the room was \$600. **6**

— Police investigated vandalism to the ceiling tiles on the second floor men’s hall in Madison Hall. The damage was approximately \$50. **7**

Monday, Sept. 25 — Staff at the Alumni House reported that a 4-by-8 foot football banner had been stolen. It was worth approximately \$250. **8**

— A bulletin board was allegedly vandalized in the Graduate Complex. Police estimated the damage at \$25. **9**

— Vandalism involving spray paint and tagging allegedly occurred in multiple places on campus, causing damages of approximately \$1,500.

— compiled by Maxim Lott

STREET BEAT : How much is Facebook worth to you?



Voyeurism is worth \$10 million dollars to me. Props to Mark Zuckerberg.

◆ Alicia Borgess, senior



Facebook means saving money every year on birthday cards ... just write on their wall.

◆ Nate Baldwin, senior



Facebook complicates social matters and adds unwarranted pressure to relationships.

◆ Julian Oreska, sophomore



I’m in a relationship with Facebook... it’s hard to describe love, but I can do it in one word: Facebook.

◆ Cara Dainer, sophomore

— photos and interviews by Virginia Newton and Julia Schaumburg

Citing fairness, U.Va. ends early decision

The College has no plans to follow in-state rival

By Eliza Murphy
The Flat Hat

The University of Virginia announced that it will end its early decision program in a move that follows that of Harvard and Princeton Universities’ to end their own early admissions programs. The College’s early decision program, however, will continue, according to Dean of Undergraduate Admissions Henry Broaddus.

U.Va. announced the plan to drop early decision Monday.

Administrators at U.Va. reported that students from low-income families rarely apply early decision.

As a result, these students are not granted the same opportunities as students from wealthier backgrounds.

The hope is that the elimination of this deadline will give applicants from all socio-economic groups equal opportunity for admission.

In Tuesday’s edition of The Cavalier Daily, U.Va.’s student newspaper, U.Va.’s Dean of Admissions Joe Blackburn said only one of U.Va.’s 172 low-income, first-year students was admitted through early decision.

“We certainly never intended to have early decision be a barrier to low-income students,” John

Blackburn, U.Va.’s dean of admission, told the Daily Press Monday. “But in point of fact, low-income students don’t apply for any kind of early admission program.”

The Admissions Office at the College is committed to creating access to early admission for students from all socio-economic groups, the College’s Dean of Admission Henry Broaddus said.

Programs are assessed on an ongoing basis, Broaddus said, and at present it seems as though the College’s early admission program is not creating an obstacle for students from low-income families.

The College is committed to need-based financial aid packaging, a program that is undertaken in the same manner for students applying for early admission as it is for those applying regular deci-

sion.

Broaddus said that a family wishing to have the option of comparing financial aid packages may be advised to apply regular decision, but that the College would advise them to do so early in the application process.

Currently, the College does not appear to be leaning toward discarding its early admission program.

“We continue to look at our early program in light of these developments,” Broaddus said. “All of these decisions, naturally, will have repercussions with respect to our own applicant pool, and we are very keenly interested in those, but for now we continue to think, based on the demographics of our early decision pool, that we use it responsibly.”



COURTESY GRAPHIC • OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS
The College presented an architect’s drawing of the new business school, seen from Campus Drive, at last week’s BOV meeting.

Business school improves ranking

By Carolyn DiProspero
The Flat Hat

The Wall Street Journal ranked the College’s Mason School of Business 17th overall in the regional category of their 2006 Guide to America’s Top Business Schools. The College was ranked higher than 34 other colleges and universities, including Georgetown University’s McDonough School of Business and University of Notre Dame’s Mendoza School of Business. The business school moved up two spots from last year’s ranking of 19th.

“Having our school in the top 20 is a significant achievement for us, as we’re a fairly small school in comparison to other schools,” Director of Marketing Communications for the business school Andrea Sardone said. “[The M.B.A. program] is a dynamic program and our students demonstrate that we are on the cutting edge of business programs.”

The report released last Wednesday is based on the survey responses of 4,125 corporate recruiters who travel to various business schools across the country to hire M.B.A. graduates. Recruiters score the schools based on attributes including curriculum, faculty, communication skills, teamwork orientation and personal ethics. They also focus on three main elements: their overall perception of the school, future plans to return for recruitment and mass appeal. The rankings are then divided up into three different categories: national, regional and international schools, sorted according to the scope of recruiters they attract.

According to an article released on CareerJournal.com as part of The Wall Street Journal report, “Regional schools tend to attract recruiters based primarily in their home area or neighboring states. Regional recruiters are more apt to visit a single business school and pay lower salaries than national recruiters.”

However, the article also noted that “recruiters classify many of the regional schools as team-focused and give their students high scores for personal ethics and integrity and

for being down-to-earth and well rounded.”

Sardone also cited two of the school’s work-experience programs — the career acceleration modules, which give students real-life business experiences, and the executive partners program, where students are matched up with retired corporate executives — as significant strengths of the business curricula.

“We’re a small school, so we’re able to provide a much more direct experience between faculty and students,” Sardone said.

This is the second year that the business school has improved its ranking. Last year it made the jump from the 26th spot to number 19. This year, the Mason school also placed in the top 10 for public schools in the regional category.

The College will begin construction on a new \$75 million business school facility on the site of Common Glory parking lot in January.

Wall Street Journal Regional Business School Ranking 2006

1. Purdue U. (Krannert)
2. Michigan State U. (Broad)
3. Ohio State U. (Fisher)
4. Thunderbird (Garvin)
5. IPADE
6. Brigham Young (Marriott)
7. Wake Forest U. (Babcock)
8. U. of Denver (Daniels)
9. Tecnologico de Monterrey
10. U. of Miami
11. Indiana U. (Kelley)
12. Emory U. (Goizueta)
13. U. at Buffalo, SUNY
14. Fordham U.
15. U. of Maryland (Smith)
16. U. of Iowa (Tippie)
17. U. of Rochester (Simon)
18. Texas Christian U. (Neeley)
19. William & Mary (Mason)
20. S. Methodist U. (Cox)
21. Vanderbilt U. (Owen)
22. Rice U. (Jones)
23. U. of Tennessee
24. U. of Arizona (Eller)
25. Washington U. (Olin)

Conservatives find home at Virginia Informer

By Brian Mahoney
Flat Hat Asst. News Editor

The Virginia Informer, an independent newspaper at the College, receives money from the Collegiate Network, a non-profit organization that promotes conservative ideals on college campuses. The Collegiate Network describes itself as the “home of conservative college journalism since 1979.”

The Informer, which calls itself “the common sense paper of record on campus,” recently celebrated its one-year anniversary. The paper is financially independent from the College and is reliant on funds from private donations, subscriptions, advertisements and annual grants from the Collegiate Network.

Assistant Editor-in-Chief Joe Luppino-Esposito, who is also the co-chair of the Student Assembly Senate and Chair of the College Republicans, said that he and current Editor-in-Chief Amanda Yasenchak started The Virginia Informer to provide an independent news source.

“We felt that the school should

have a newspaper ... that was completely financially independent from the College,” Luppino-Esposito said.

He said that the paper is non-partisan and doesn’t hold a particular political ideology in its reporting.

“If you look at our articles, they’re typical articles. We had one about construction; I don’t think that’s a conservative issue,” he said.

Luppino-Esposito also receives a \$5,000 renewable scholarship from the Collegiate Network for his work on the Informer, according to Campus Magazine Online.

Despite receiving money from a conservative interest group, Luppino-Esposito said the paper’s news does not have a conservative bias.

Yasenchak and Luppino-Esposito said the Collegiate Network cannot promote conservative views because they are a 503 (c) non-profit, non-partisan organization. However, the mandate that they remain non-partisan only restricts them from endorsing political candidates, not conservative

ideas.

“Our political spectrum ranges from moderate conservative to conservative Republican to right-wing Libertarian,” Stephen Klupewicz, ’89, the executive director of the Collegiate Network, said.

The Collegiate Network’s website says that the network does not exercise editorial control over member papers, but it does reserve the right to expel member papers.

Klupewicz added that while a Collegiate Network-funded paper can retain its objectivity in news reporting, it still must give a voice to conservative ideals in other parts of the publication.

“You gotta have some point of view that challenges the dominant liberal view on campus as we see it,” Klupewicz said.

He said that Collegiate Network publications hope to counteract popular liberal views held by the faculty, administration and students of colleges across the country.

In regard to The Virginia Informer, Klupewicz said that their political conservatism propagates itself primarily in their editorial

section.

Luppino-Esposito agreed.

“Our editorials are a little more on the conservative side,” he said. “We keep our opinions off the news page.”

Both Luppino-Esposito and Yasenchak denied that they were compelled to make The Virginia Informer more conservative in order to receive funds from the Collegiate Network.

“The Collegiate Network says it’s the ‘home of conservative journalism,’ but you know, I live at my home in New Jersey ... so do my mom and my dad and my brother. Just because we’re all in the same home doesn’t mean we’re the same thing,” Luppino-Esposito said.

Yasenchak said that if The Virginia Informer ever felt forced to impose a particular ideology to receive funding, they would refuse to accept the donation.

“We’re committed to being an independent press, and if ... it were to get to that point where it was the CN that was pressuring us ... we would reject any monetary support,” she said.

Senior charged with embezzling funds

By Austin Wright
Flat Hat Asst. News Editor

Senior Emily Mills was arrested by campus police Monday and charged with a felony count of embezzling approximately \$2,500 from the College Bookstore where she was employed. According to Director of News Services Brian Whitson, she allegedly credited refunds to her personal bank account between January and September 2006.

The police report says that the College Bookstore reported credit card fraud by an employee Sept. 20. Five days later, the charge was

changed to embezzlement and Mills was arrested.

The bookstore is owned by Colonial Williamsburg but falls under the jurisdiction of campus police due to a lease agreement with the College. The money, though, belonged to Barnes and Noble, which operates the store.

Due to privacy laws, Whitson would not say whether the College is going to press charges against Mills in a campus judiciary proceeding.

Mills could not be reached for comment, and representatives of the bookstore declined to comment.

College to offer HPV vaccine, Plan B pill

By Carl R. Siegmund
Flat Hat Staff Writer

The Food and Drug Administration recently approved a vaccine for the prevention of Human Papillomavirus and a version of the Plan B emergency contraceptive pill, which will be available over the counter as soon as later this year.

Students at the College will have access the drugs in the near future, according to the Student Health Center.

“This is important because women over 18 will not have to go through a provider for the morning-after pill anymore,” Student Health Center Pharmacist Maureen Bounds said.

The Plan B drug was approved to go over-the-counter in August for women over 18, and will be available sometime later this year, or early in 2007. The HPV vaccine, Gardasil, given in three separate injections, is already on the market for females between the ages of nine and 26.

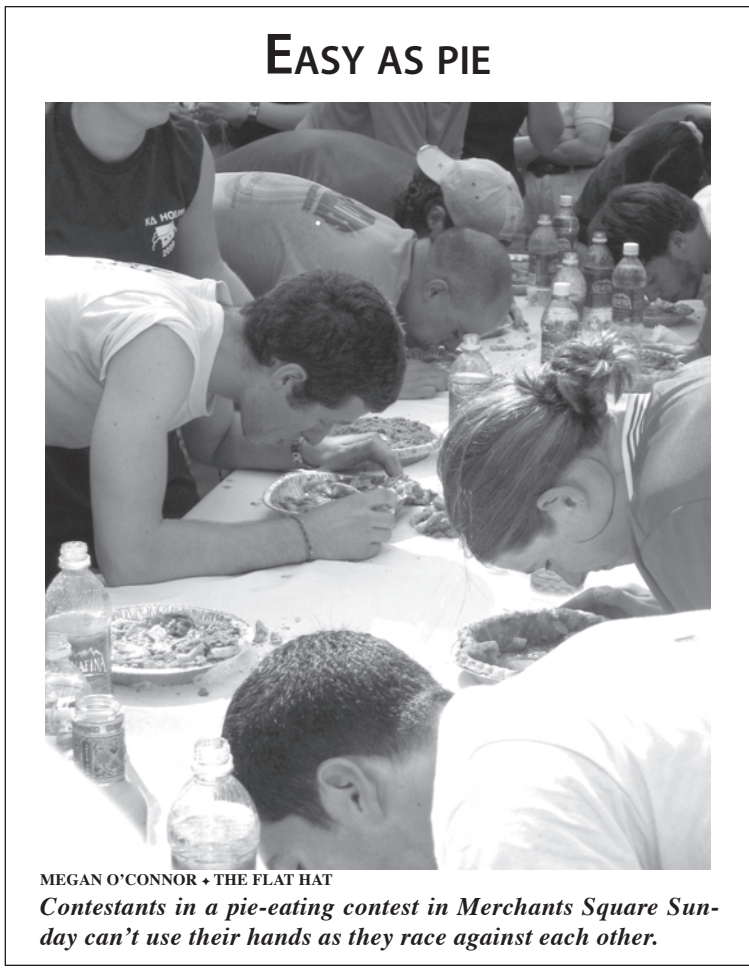
“Gardasil is the first vaccine that has been shown to prevent HPV, which is linked to cervical cancer,” Sarah Irwin, a health educator at the College, said.

“Not all cases of cervical cancer are caused by HPV, but by vaccinating against this, it will decrease the incidence of cervical cancer,” Irwin added.

During the trial period for Gardasil, 40,000 people received the vaccine. Many of the test sites were at colleges because of the high rate of HPV in young women.

“It’s going to go down with polio as a major advance and probably lead the way toward vaccinations for other cancers,” Henry William Buck, a retired gynecologist from Student Health Services at the University of Kansas, told KU News in a statement about the drug.

Along with the Plan B prescription, the Student Health Center at the College is offering the Gardasil vaccine at a cost of \$145 per injection.



MEGAN O’CONNOR • THE FLAT HAT
Contestants in a pie-eating contest in Merchants Square Sunday can’t use their hands as they race against each other.

For suspended frats, it’s a waiting game

By Dorothy Park
The Flat Hat

Members of fraternities that are not recognized by the College and are eager to return to campus have some more waiting to do, according to Associate Director of Student Activities Anne Arseneau.

Arseneau, who is also a Greek Life adviser said that fraternities such as Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) and Sigma Phi Epsilon (Sig Ep) that are no longer recognized by the College or their respective national chapters will not be able to return to campus at least another year.

Relatively long periods of suspension attempt to ensure the graduation of every initiated class of members involved at the time of suspension. Fraternities suspended during a brother’s freshman year will not be eligible for re-colonization until his

class graduates.

Arsenau said the rules are strict.

“If there is reason to believe a group associated with Sig Ep [or any fraternity not recognized by CFA] is meeting underground, it would cause delay in re-colonization,” Arseneau said.

Charter revocation and suspension for the College’s chapter of Sig Ep began in spring 2004, when the College and the fraternity’s national chapter placed disciplinary sanctions on Sig Ep “for several violations of student code of conduct that culminated in a short period of time,” according to Arseneau.

In fall 2004, the College’s Sigma Alpha Epsilon chapter was also suspended after the College and national chapter’s joint review found the fraternity had violated established

See FRATS + page 4

College web safe from federal probe

By James Damon
Flat Hat Staff Writer

The privacy rights of students at the College have come into question recently as a result of a 2005 extension of monitoring powers by the Federal Communications Commission that sought to allow officials to monitor student internet activity.

The ruling, which was clarified by the U.S. Court of Appeals in

June, does not currently extend to the College.

Under the new law, all public internet service providers are required to install wiretapping capabilities in case a court-ordered wiretap is provided.

All commercial phone lines, including those provided to students by the College, currently have wiretapping capability.

See PROBE + page 4

Man receives life for raping student

By Austin Wright
Flat Hat Asst. News Editor

A 2001 rape case that occurred near the College’s Student Health Center has come to a close. Yesterday’s edition of the Daily Press reported that DNA evidence led to the conviction of Christopher Michael Evans for abducting and raping a female who was a College senior at the time.

The jury recommended that he receive life sentences for both charges. According to the Daily Press article, the victim said she lost consciousness but woke up twice during the ordeal: once while she was being dragged through wet grass and once during the rape. When she woke up a third time, the rapist was gone and she was naked below the waist.

Evans had DNA taken during a 2005 arrest for unrelated charges. The sample matched DNA taken from the victim after the 2001 attack.

Under the MICRSCOPE

◆ GLOBAL WARMING MAY CAUSE MASS EXTINCTION, SCIENTISTS SAY

By KATE PRENGAMAN
FLAT HAT SCIENCE COLUMNIST

Just as children always seem fascinated by dinosaurs, scientists are fascinated by extinctions. Not your normal, everyday, this-species-didn't-have-the-genetic-advantage-to-make-it kind of extinction, but the massive, wipe-out-most-of-the-living-things-on-Earth kind of extinction. There have been five such extinctions in the fossil record; not slow accumulations of disappearance but brief, intense ecological impacts, like the currently accepted massive asteroid theories. However, in a recent article in Scientific American, Peter Ward postulates a new theory of destruction: global warming.

Excuse my use of a politically charged term. We have all heard the global warming saga — melting ice, rising sea levels, violent weather systems and changing climate that will make life as we know it a lot more difficult, but not necessarily end it entirely. Ward's theory relies on a more rapid increase in the global climate than we are currently seeing, but that doesn't mean we're home free either.

"The so-called thermal extinction at the end of the Paleocene [era] began when atmospheric CO² was just under 1,000 [parts per million]," Ward writes. "At the end of the Triassic [period], CO² was just above 1,000 ppm." Currently, we're climbing steadily past 385 ppm, not exactly good news, but not yet on par with the mass extinctions, Ward said.

Even if we are not rushing head-on into a thermal extinction event, as Ward calls the phenomenon, it is still worth understanding. Before industrialization, carbon dioxide was released into the atmosphere by volcanoes. A high level of volcanic activity could provide enough carbon dioxide and methane to provoke rapid global warming, which, as we know, means lots of bad news. The worst case scenario in Ward's analysis would be that as the oceans warmed, they would absorb less oxygen.

Oxygen, is required for the survival of most terrestrial and aquatic life, with the notable exception of anaerobic bacteria that live on the ocean floor, which use sulfur as their primary electron acceptor, and generate toxic hydrogen sulfide instead

of harmless water. As the aerobic aquatic life decreased with the decrease in available oxygen due to global warming, these anaerobes would inversely prosper, expanding their zone of tolerance upward. Sound like science fiction?

"Biomarkers in the oceanic sediments from the latest part of the Permian [period], and from the latest Triassic rocks as well, yielded chemical evidence of an ocean-wide bloom of hydrogen-sulfide consuming bacteria," Ward writes. The bacteria have been recorded in surface level sediments, suggesting that they climbed up from the ocean floor.

If that encroaching anaerobic zone did reach the surface, hydrogen sulfide would suffocate the remaining aerobic aquatic organisms and diffuse into the air as a gas, poisoning all of the nearby land plants and animals. Enough H₂S gas could even have atmospheric effects; rising to the troposphere, it could quickly dismantle the earth's protective ozone layer, encouraging UV radiation to kill most of the remaining organisms that the initial toxic gases hadn't handled.

Scientists have estimated that the amount of H₂S gas in the atmosphere near the Permian extinction period was nearly 2,000 times more than we have in the air today as a result of occasional volcanic eruption. Toxic compounds in both the air and the oceans is a double-whammy as far as survival is concerned. These thermal extinctions events seem very possible according to fossil records, and therefore, could occur again. Makes a little rise in sea level seem like no big deal, right?



COURTESY PHOTO • FOLLYBEACH.COM
Oxygen is required for the survival of most aquatic life, such as dolphins and the organisms they eat.

VANDALISM

FROM PAGE 1

replaced with the word "DIE." Signs bearing the LGLA's name, mission statement, and Safe Zone mission statement were also defaced. A member of the student body discovered the vandalized board, located in the rear hallway of the school, at approximately 5:30 p.m.

Law School Dean Taylor Reveley called the incident "Extraordinarily unusual for the law school ... a tear in the fabric we are working hard to prepare." In an e-mail to the law school community, Reveley said the act "constituted conduct directly opposed to the basic principles of our community."

Brian Whitson, director of news services for the College, reported that campus police have begun an investigation of the incident, but there are currently no suspects in the case. Because the building remained open Friday afternoon, it is not yet known whether students or non-students committed the act. Whitson added that apprehension of the suspect currently rests primarily on the chance of the offender confessing to the crime or information from the student body. The faculty has organized a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the vandal.

Reveley said that he feels "heartened by the efforts made by students and staff and the support of the community."

Members of LGLA also said that they were happy with the outcry

against the act.

"It was made abundantly clear that the Marshall-Wythe student body is outraged, appalled and just plain flabbergasted," LGLA Vice President Laurissa Stokes said.

Images of the bulletin board have been blown up and placed in the lobby of the Law School for students to sign in support for LGLA. In a message to students, Student Bar Association President Trey Freeman also announced that rainbow pins will be provided for those students who wish "to stand in solidarity against acts of hate and intimidation." Freeman encouraged students to support the LGLA in building trust and understanding in the face of the recent development.

Anne Brinckman, President of Students for Equality in Legal Education and a member of LGLA, also made a formal statement to the Student Bar Association requesting that the organization take a lead in coordinating a student response.

"I respect the right of others to disagree with the LGLA," Brinckman said. "However, the issue here is the unlawful and disrespectful act of vandalism. This was not careless, pointless vandalism — the clear intent, based on the words like 'die,' wish harm on and intimidate other members of the Law School Community."

Brinckman said that she still has a positive impression of the school.

"While there are a lot of problems I see in the law school, I absolutely don't think that this is characteristic of our school," she said.

was not in his best interest involving the Delly. Sen. Scott Fitzgerald, a senior and senate chair, said that he was pleased with the bill.

"I think it's an improvement because it specifically says we'll support the College Delly unless it becomes unviable, and in that case we're going to pursue other options that will sustain the nightlife of the students here," he said.

The senate also passed the Budget Process Reform Act II, which hopes to allow the senate to make more informed decisions about money. They also confirmed Dave Johnson as a member of the Review Board after sending his nomination back to the committee last week.

HEALTH

FROM PAGE 1

regarded ham with an unmarked preparation date, improper storage of chemicals and unlabeled chemical bottles.

The Caf and Marketplace were inspected on June 13, 2006. Neither was charged with any violations of the health code.

In its last two inspections, the UC was not cited with any violations and has never received more than five critical violations in recent years. The May inspection was conducted in a different manner than other inspections, which, according to Puckett and Dining Services, may have led to more violations being noted.

"The inspection conducted was performed by two 'expert' standardization officers during a training exercise under a new FDA format that the Aramark management is not familiar with," Puckett said in her e-mail. "His job was to inspect the inspector," DiBenedetto added.

Brackett attributed the critical violation for uncovered employee drinks to the different inspection. "In the past, inspections did not include straws in cups, but this one did," said Brackett. UC management will ensure that this new procedure is adhered to, he added. "The law is the law. I interpret it now the way they did."

The UC uses a complex system of checks to ensure food safety. Some items are stored by temperature, whereas others, including many display foods, are on a system of time-based disposal, in which they are thrown out at various intervals to ensure bacteria do not develop

PROBE

FROM PAGE 3

"It was never our understanding that we would soon be asked to wiretap students' connections without their permission or a court order," said Courtney Carpenter, assistant provost for Information Technology at the College.

College officials were more concerned with the potential cost of "proactively" installing a wire-tapping infrastructure.

The order to extend monitoring to internet service providers was proposed in 2005 by the FCC. Litigation by higher education groups Educause and the American Council on Education argued that the law would be too costly.

In June, the U.S. Court of Appeals ruled in agreement with higher education groups to prevent the law's extension to college campuses.

Exemption comes from a very simple matter: how institutions access the internet and to whom

World Beat: Vatican City Bishop excommunicated

By JOSHUA BARR
THE FLAT HAT

The Roman Catholic Church has officially excommunicated Archbishop Emmanuel Milingo, a popular prelate from Zambia, according to the Sept. 26 online edition of CBS News.

Milingo defied the Vatican's Holy See and angered church officials in 2001 by marrying. He recently installed four married men as bishops in Zambia, which lead to his excommunication, Reuters reported.

"The Holy See has patiently witnessed the evolution of the events which, unfortunately, have led Milingo to a state of irregularity and progressive open break from communion with the church," the Vatican said in a written statement.

ordination, according to Father Arthur Espelage, the executive coordinator of the Canon Law Society of America.

The four men ordained by Milingo claim affiliation with the breakaway Synod of Old Catholic Churches. They, too, were automatically excommunicated for the improper ordainment, according to the Vatican.

Milingo is the head of the church in Lusaka, and was appointed at the age of 39. He held the post for 14 years before the Vatican recalled him to Rome for his activities as a healer and an exorcist. However, he was able to retain the title of archbishop, according to BBC News.

Although the church recognizes exorcism as a valid practice, Milingo's mass exorcisms and healings

"At various levels ... the church tried in vain to contact Milingo, to dissuade him from going ahead with scandal-provoking actions, above all among the faithful who followed his pastoral ministry in favor of the poor and sick," the Vatican said.

To further complicate matters, Milingo announced his new mission to usher in the practice of allowing priests to marry. After reuniting with his wife, he appeared at a news conference in Washington, D.C., for the formation of a new group, Married Priests Now, the New York Times said.

Interviewed by the National Catholic Reporter, Milingo cited intolerable restrictions and a lack of appreciation for his gifts as an exorcist as the primary reasons for his opposition to the Holy See.

SITUATION: VATICAN CITY

Pope Benedict XVI has excommunicated a popular Zambian bishop for violating Roman Catholic Church doctrine. Archbishop Emmanuel Milingo, a popular prelate, was banished from the church for appointing four married men as bishops in Zambia. Milingo was appointed Archbishop when he was 39 and has held the post for 14 years. He has been the focus of controversy in the past decade due to his 2001 marriage organized by the Korea-based Unification Church. Many speculate that his controversial appointments were part of a larger mission to allow priests to marry without fear of punishment. He recently formed Married Priests Now, a group organized to petition The Catholic Church to allow clerical marriage. Vatican officials fear that Milingo has created a rift between African Catholics. Catholicism's popularity has increased in Africa over the past decade, with many African patrons wishing to liberalize the church and add local rituals to church services.

According to The Associated Press, authorities within the Vatican, including the late Pope John Paul II, attempted for several years to convince Milingo to conform to church doctrine. After we performed the unauthorized ordinations, Rome finally lost patience, fearing that Milingo was threatening papal authority.

Milingo was excommunicated latae sententiae, meaning that it was automatic, rather than by judicial decision, the Sept. 26 online edition of The New York Times reported. Under Canon 1382, pontifical mandate or an appointment is needed for an

led to the Vatican accusing him of promoting African indigenous beliefs.

The BBC also said that, contrary to the canons of the Catholic faith, Milingo married a South Korean woman, Maria Sung, at a mass wedding in New York organized by the Korea-based Unification Church, also known as the Moonies.

He was later persuaded by the Vatican to renounce his marriage; however, he recently reunited with his wife. Despite repeated warnings, Milingo continued to defy the Holy See.

Milingo's situation displays a growing diversity of opinion within the church. Milingo has fought back, highlighting his desire for priests to be able to marry and allowing the incorporation of local ritual into church practice, the New York Times reported.

These issues present significant dilemmas for the church, especially in Africa, where Catholicism is growing rapidly.

Some have gone as far to state fear that Milingo could create a schism within the church and could form a breakaway sect in Africa.

FRATS

FROM PAGE 3

policies. In addition to confirming allegations of hazing, the investigation also revealed that SAE members were not abiding by the College's alcohol regulations.

As punishment for their behavior, the College and national chapters revoked their charters. This entails the cessation of recognition as a legitimate Greek social fraternity, as well as suspension from campus housing for the 2006-2007 academic year.

Hopes to recolonize at the College rest in the future after spring 2007, when a collaborative effort will be made by the College and associated national chapters to determine whether or not to welcome the fraternities back to campus.

Assuming that they are given another chance, the 2007-2008 academic year would be the earliest time Sig Ep and SAE could re-apply for campus housing. Even then, their eligibility does not guarantee on-campus housing.

Currently, the College's Council for Fraternity Affairs recognizes and governs 14 fraternities. SAE and Sig Ep are two of four fraternities that neither the CFA nor their associated national chapters recognize.

In Feb. 2006, the College put its chapter of Psi Upsilon on probation through the fall 2006 semester for an incident involving drugs and vandalism.

The night that the fraternity was put on probation, however, Psi U allegedly violated more policies by holding an unregistered party with minors present. In response, the College prolonged the chapter's suspension through spring 2008.

The worst-case scenario for a College chapter fraternity would be a dearth of interested students. Kappa Sigma lost its charter after losing members of the fraternity, unable to re-colonize at the College until fall 2004, after an absence of nearly five years.

Another fraternity that has found a home at the College is Theta Delta Chi, which colonized in fall 2003.

Alpha Tau Omega began expansion initiatives Monday in hopes of becoming the newest fraternity at the College.

fhopns@wm.edu

OPINIONS

STAFF EDITORIAL

Dining hall disaster

The Virginia Department of Health’s May inspection of the University Center forces us to ask: what exactly are students getting for their meal plan money? Dining Services has made an effort to improve the quality of campus food, but far too many students remain displeased with the options on campus. We hope that improvements will continue, but drastic changes will have to be made before students are satisfied with the food on campus.

Gross cafeteria food is easy to complain about, but at the College, people complain for a reason. The most basic complaint can’t be constructively expressed on a little white comment card: the food is bad. UC pizzas go untouched by College students that happily pay for Chanello’s. The odd menu choices (eggplant parmesan, broccoli blanched and shepherd’s pie) reach for variety, but end up as failures. Wraps are soggy. Milk dispensers are slow to be refilled. These problems cannot be fixed by making a small change here and there. They require a complete overhaul of the way food is served at the University Center. The College must take a tougher stand with food supplier Aramark and demand that students get more for their money.

Ostensibly open until 10 p.m., you would be hard-pressed to find a fresh bagel at the UC past 8 p.m., let alone a hot meal. Students have hectic schedules and need the extended dining hall hours, but dining halls that are open but serve no food waste money and provide no benefit to the campus community. Basic staples like fresh bagels, cereal, fruit and drinks need to be available as long as the halls are open, or they are not really open at all.

The College should continue expanding the number of stand-alone restaurants. The Quizno’s has a line stretching across Lodge 1 every day at lunch time. Chik-fil-A is perennially popular with students willing to spend their flex points at the Market Place. The quality of food is consistently high at these restaurants, and students have control over exactly what they order instead of throwing themselves at the whim of the dining services menu (vegan beef taco, anyone?).

When confronted with a specific complaint, dining services can usually correct the problem, but the overall quality of our dining halls never seems to improve. The health violations were corrected promptly, but the UC still feels dirty. When students loudly complained about the lack of rice crispy treats last year, they brought back the sweet squares, but dessert is still disappointing. Dining hall hours were extended at students’ request, but food is still scarce past 8 p.m. This cycle of specific complaints, followed by a well-meaning but ultimately unsatisfactory change, has plagued Dining Services for years. It is time for that to change.

It doesn’t have to be this way. Some schools, like Virginia Tech, receive rave reviews from students who have been lucky enough to visit for a meal. Dining services should start by better tracking what meals are popular among students and use this information to improve meals immediately. In the long term, the school should allow students to convert meals into flex points, and to turn flex points into cash at the end of the semester. Currently, if Dining Services falls short of student expectations, there is nothing the student can do. Their money has already been paid. Allowing students to cash out their meals would make things more difficult for Aramark, but that is the point. It would force the dining halls to compete directly with the stand-alone restaurants like Quizno’s, and give them an incentive to provide quality food. If students thought a meal was not worthwhile, they could choose to spend their meals elsewhere, or not spend them at all. The current “use it or lose it” benefits Aramark at the expense of students.

Dining services has justified restrictions on student meal plans by claiming that without them, meal plans would cost more than students are willing to pay. But for students on the Block 60 plan, the average cost of each meal is already a whopping \$9.58. That’s a bad deal any way you slice it.

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The Flat Hat welcomes submissions to the Opinions section. Letters to the Editor and Opinions columns are due at 5 p.m. Tuesday for publication the following Friday. All submissions must be typed and double-spaced, and must include the author’s name, telephone number and any relevant titles or affiliations with campus or national groups. Letters may be no more than 300 words; columns may not be less than 500 words nor more than 700. Letters must be e-mailed to fhopns@wm.edu. The Flat Hat reserves the right to edit all material. Because of space limitations, The Flat Hat may not publish all submissions. The Flat Hat Editorial Board meets weekly to discuss the position taken by editorials. Unsigned editorials are written by the Editor or a designated member of the Editorial Board. All Board editorials reflect the consensus of the Editorial Board. Letters, columns, graphics and cartoons reflect the view of the author only.

Go ahead and laugh

Being a junior, I was unfortunately unable to see the now-infamous comedian that greeted our giddy new freshmen with his supposedly anti-Semitic shtick. Whether he was funny or not hardly seems to matter at this point; however, Rachael Siemon-Carome’s Sept. 22 editorial, “Funny or Offensive?,” is not merely an attack on the man but on the art of offensive comedy as a whole. In expressing her dislike for the comic, the columnist unjustly denigrates an entirely acceptable school of humor.

The columnist urges readers to take “the harder road” in their lives as consumers of comedy — a road that entails, ostensibly, laughing at Dane Cook’s Kool-Aid rants and some good, clean Sylvia Plath jokes instead of anything remotely incisive. As someone who has written, performed and laughed heartily at many “offensive” jokes, I find it, well, offensive to be told that something isn’t funny or intelligent because it runs the risk of upsetting someone.

Comedy is, of course, one of humanity’s more subjective pleasures, which makes it absurd to lay out objective “rules” about what is and isn’t funny. But the columnist’s dictums sadly assume that humor exists merely to entertain, ignoring satire’s potential as a tool for social commentary. She also implies that she’s a believer in the old adage, that there is “truth to every joke.” Too often, though, an offensive joke is funny specifically because of its ridiculously hyperbolic tendencies: that is, because it’s very clearly untrue.

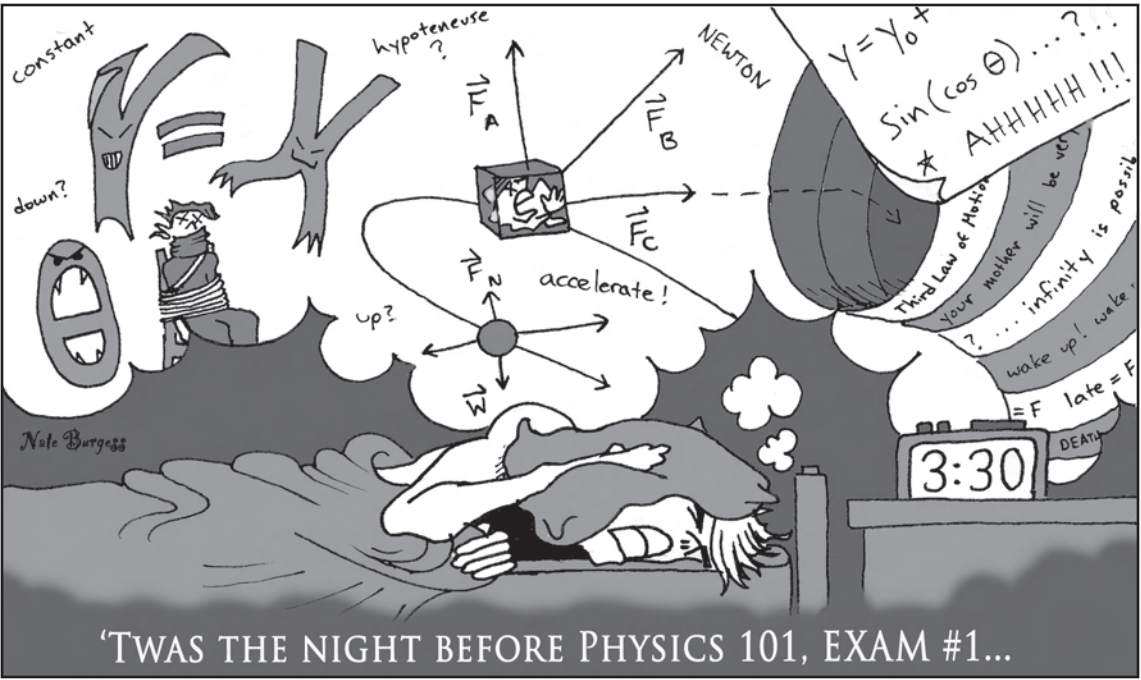
The average offensive joke takes, in fact, a remarkable amount of intelligence and craftsmanship. Not only must one be aware of the prevailing stereotypes, but also clever enough to contort them into witty and insightful new combinations. Moreover, the delivery must be blunt enough to elicit shock value while keeping one’s tongue firmly in cheek. Getting these elements in place is a daunting task — not everyone can write brilliant sketches like Dave Chappelle’s “Niggar Family.” Nonetheless, it’s certainly possible for jokes about race to be “funny.” The “c-word” — think “current” with a few letters removed — can be funny; jokes about the Holocaust

can be funny; dead babies, dead celebrities and national tragedies can all be hilarious.

To laugh at these jokes is not to perpetuate negative stereotypes; one laughs merely because of the ironic affront to solemnity that such humor takes as its foundation. Being aware of stereotypes does not make one more likely to believe them and laughing at tragedy does not make one less attuned to its genuine ramifications. I’ve always been told that diversity — a buzzword in which this university finds itself ever-more-nauseatingly steeped — intends to broaden one’s range of experiences, not narrow it. In further exalting this spirit of diversity, though, students are being continuously poured into politically correct molds, gilded in the fool’s gold of a system that believes that the only way to eliminate prejudice is to treat its progeny with the utmost reverence. The fact that people in this nation once held slaves, for instance, disgusts me. I can atone for our nation’s past sins, though, and still find myself in stitches at a joke involving the cigarette preferences of black people. (I hear they really like Newports. But I firmly support any plan to rehabilitate public education in poverty-stricken, predominantly African-American neighborhoods, and I legitimately adore the new Lupe Fiasco album.)

The comedian who spoke to our freshmen may have been an incompetent, blathering philistine, but to write off all offensive humor as heinous and uncreative is a grave mistake. On a higher level, laughing at stereotypes only reveals exactly how illogical they are; one laughs, in part, because the central premise of a specific group with trait X always possessing trait Y becomes so obviously flawed. To cast off all such jokes is to ignore a rich and rewarding brand of irony that many humorists strive to attain. I don’t care if my grandmother can’t laugh at it — both of mine are dead, anyway — and I don’t care if half of the audience lacks either the political incorrectness or the nuance to enjoy it. Believe it or not, Americans can very easily begin to laugh with each other without feeling as though we’re laughing at each other. Siemon-Carome is right about one thing: we do all have a sense of humor, which is precisely why we must draw the line nowhere.

Dan Piepenbring, the editor of The Pillory, is a junior at the College. His views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.



Let’s just live together

Lester Maddox, the segregationist ex-Governor of Georgia, once said that, “Part of American greatness is discrimination. Yes, sir. Inequality, I think, breeds freedom and gives a man opportunity.”

This is, of course, complete bullshit. There is no justification for institutionalized inequity. Discrimination does not exude opportunity — it squelches it. Pick any random page from your U.S. History book and the discriminatory policies our country has imposed on women, ethnic minorities, religious minorities, gays, the physically handicapped, workers, immigrants and countless other social groups since 1776 practically leap off the page.

It wasn’t until 1963 that African-Americans could attend the College. It wasn’t until 1972 that female students here could stay out of bed past a “females only” curfew. For decades, Native Americans were kept in their own dorm, the Brafferton. At the same time, they were considered “students” at the College, but segregated from the rest of the community. These defunct policies sound ridiculous now — even offensive — but in their time, all were widely accepted as the status quo.

In 2006, one of the most profound examples of institutionalized discrimination at the College has also been one of the most overlooked: if we live in on-campus housing, we are forced to live with members of the same sex.

This may at first seem like an obvious choice on Residence Life’s part. After all, if men and women share rooms, there will be sexual tension. And if there’s one thing we all know about sexual tension, it’s that it destroys hall unity and lowers your GPA. (If that’s so, the College should consider unisex classes as well; then I won’t have to deal with the unbearable sexual tension between myself and that girl in my statistics class ... you know who you are.) ResLife gives all students the option of living in single-sex housing if they feel uncomfortable. If unavailable, students may at least live on a same-sex hall with a same-sex roommate.

But while single-sex housing options serve the interests of uncomfortable straight students well, any

gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer students who feel uncomfortable living around members of the same sex, or same assigned gender, find themselves completely out of luck. For them, there are no such ameliorating options.

Our school has long since stopped assuming that every matriculating student will be white, or that every student will be Anglican, or that every student will be male. Why should College policy continue to assume that every student will be straight? Such heteronormative assumptions trivialize the wide range of sexualities and gender identities at the College, to the detriment of many students.

Aside from the discriminatory aspects of gender segregation, it should go without saying that, as adults, we are mature enough to live with other adults. After all, we can vote for president, buy cigarettes, serve in the military, run for City Council and even get married. We share classrooms, we share dining halls, we’re involved in the same student organizations. Why is it such a leap for us to share living spaces? Providing students with a gender-blind housing option would be consistent with ResLife’s long-standing credo of “self-determination,” whereby students are treated as adults. To deny us this option and prohibit us from rooming with a friend of the opposite sex, strips us of the respect we deserve as adults and relegates us to the status of mere children.

“The Freedom of Choice Act,” a bill I introduced into the Student Assembly Senate last week, was passed unanimously. SA President Ryan Scofield signed the bill last Sunday. The Freedom of Choice Act commits the SA to working with ResLife to establish gender blind housing options for the 2007-2008 academic year and beyond. If ultimately approved by the appropriate members of the administration, this policy will be a great leap forward in eliminating unconscious discrimination at the College as well as offering students more of the personal freedoms we deserve.

Whether or not you would personally decide to live in a gender-blind environment is beside the point. As adults, we deserve options. As people, we deserve respect.

Zach Pilchen, a Student Assembly senator, is a sophomore at the College. His views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.

The value of one life

On Wednesday, Sept. 13, Bobby Schindler spoke on campus about his sister, Terri Schindler-Schiavo, and the events and issues surrounding her death.

While he focused on Terri’s specific case, he also presented topics that have a universal application. He addressed the common misconception held by a student here who wrote on one of the flyers advertising the speech:

“And then, she turned into a vegetable.”

In reality, as Schindler shared with us, Terri was not a vegetable. She was kept alive by a feeding tube that was inserted because she had lost the ability to eat and drink on her own. Disability rights groups do not consider this a form of life support, and in fact, almost thirty of these organizations rallied behind Terri as members of the coalition to keep her alive. These groups viewed Terri as a handicapped person whose rights needed protection, not as someone who was brain-dead and wanted to die. To these groups, Terri’s death was a blow to the status of the disabled and a decrease in the status of their civil liberties in America.

Central to the Terri Schindler-Schiavo case was the diagnosis of persistent vegetative state, which Terri was thought to be in by some of the doctors who examined her. Schindler discussed this category in depth, pointing out that PVS is an incredibly subjective diagnosis that, according to one British study, is misused 50 percent of the time. In fact, a recent Washington Post article discussed a woman who, having been diagnosed with PVS, was given another brain scan and was found to have cognitive activity; the diagnosis was immediately withdrawn. Schindler

discussed that story in his speech, mentioning that the Schindlers wanted to give t-he same test to Terri, but the Florida courts denied their petitions. While the PVS test cannot be conducted post-mortem, after Terri’s death, doctors discovered that her frontal lobes (the part of the brain that controls complex cognitive functioning) were intact, meaning Terri had always retained an undamaged emotional state.

This enigmatic category of PVS is dangerous because it is one of the criteria the medical community uses to decide whether a person should be taken off of life-support. In Terri’s case, this was the tube that she used to eat and drink. Even though the Schindlers found that more doctors agreed Terri was not in a PVS than thought that she was, the Schindlers wanted to abolish this medical diagnosis for future cases. Using such a subjective interpretation as a basis for deciding whether someone can live or die does not uphold the vows of the Hippocratic Oath. The life of an individual should have more protection than one diagnosis from one doctor. In addition, the unreliability of PVS is evident in the different ways doctors have diagnosed PVS and the number of people who have later proven cognitive activity, making this medical category irresponsible at best and lethal as a criteria used to terminate lives.

“All life is sacred, and we can’t treat people differently simply because they look differently or because they can’t do everything that we are able to do,” Schindler remarked. This is a principle which we must hold for all venues of life or, as Schindler pointed out, we will end up with a eugenics solution in society like that of Nazi Germany. Who are we to judge whose life is worth living?

Charlotte Moxley, the Vice-President of Students for Life, is a junior at the College. Her views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.

The College's annual family weekend will begin tonight at 8 p.m. with a concert in William and Mary Hall. The Choir, the Wind Symphony, the Symphony Orchestra and the William and Mary Women's Chorus will perform. Admission is free and open to the public.

Tomorrow at 8 p.m., another concert in William and Mary Hall will feature the College's student a capella ensembles with a variety of musical selections. The event is free for students with ID and family members registered for Family Weekend. General admission is \$5. Contact Chip Phillips at x2203 or fhphil@wm.edu with any questions.

The William and Mary Police Department is holding its annual bike sale tomorrow at 8 a.m. The bikes can be viewed starting at 7 a.m. next to the old Police Department office, located behind the Campus Center. The sale is first come, first serve.

The 225th anniversary of the battle of Yorktown will take place Oct. 19 to 22, marking America's 1781 victory over the British. Volunteers are needed to help with crowd management, exhibits, concerts, parades, fireworks and other activities during the four-day celebration at Yorktown Battlefield, Riverwalk Landing and the Yorktown Victory Center.

Volunteers must be at least 18 years old. Applications can be found in the volunteer sec-

tion at Americas400thanniversary.com. Mail applications to Lynn Smith at the Volunteer Office, 412 W. Francis St., Williamsburg, VA 23185. For more information on volunteering call 220-7008 or e-mail vols2007@cwf.org.

Meet top newspaper industry recruiters at the Opportunities 2006 Minority Job Fair on Nov. 10 at the Virginia Press Association (VPA) Headquarters in Glen Allen. Job seekers can find more information and a registration form on vpa.net.

This year's "Green and Gold Affair" will take place Oct. 21 at the University Center at 8 p.m. The formal ball is designed as a fundraiser for organizations that register for a fee of \$35. Students can buy their tickets now for \$10 online or at the University Center starting Oct. 9. Upon ticket purchase, the students will select which registered organization they want to support. The dance will feature live music, a DJ, catered food and a cash bar. Visit www.wm.edu/so/greenandgoldaffair for more information.

Associate Professor of Economics Sarah Stafford will present the 8th Annual Distinguished Faculty Lecture, "Environmentalists in the Boardroom: Using Public Policy to Encourage Corporate

Responsibility," on Oct. 8 at 4 p.m. in Andrews Hall, Room 101. Stafford will discuss the motivations of cooperation between environmental agencies and corporations as well as corporate environmental responsibilities. The free lecture will be followed by a reception. Contact Peggy Monilais at x7737 for additional information.

Swem Library will host its annual Friends of the Library Book Sale tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. in the library's Botetourt Gallery. The sale will feature thousands of academic and popular titles. Hardcover books are \$4 each and softcovers \$1 each. All books will be half price on Sunday. Proceeds from the sale will go to the library. This event is free and open to the public. For additional information contact Paul Showalter at x3071 or phshow@wm.edu.

William Kelso, head archaeologist of the Jamestown Rediscovery Project, will discuss his new book on the project at the Williamsburg Library Theatre tonight at 7 p.m. Immediately preceding Dr. Kelso's talk will be the brief annual meeting of the Friends of Williamsburg Regional Library. The University of Virginia Press, publisher of the book, will be sponsoring a reception for Dr. Kelso following his presentation and a question-and-answer period.

Copies of his new book
"Jamestown: The Buried Truth"

will be available for purchase and signing. The program is free of charge. Call (757) 259-4050 with any questions.

Christine Lavin, five-time winner of the ASCAP Award and two-time New York Music Award winner, is performing as part of the Dewey Decibel concert series at the Williamsburg Library Theatre on Oct. 6 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Lavin, known for her witty folk songs, recently released her 17th album "One Meat Ball." Tickets can be ordered by calling (757) 259-4070 and cost \$18 for adults, \$12 with student ID and \$9 for those under 16.

Due to the Lake Matoaka Amphitheater redevelopment, the lake's boathouse is not open for canoe and kayak rentals until further notice. Construction and heavy equipment make the area unsafe for recreation. As soon as conditions improve, the facility will re-open. E-mail Kim Whitley at kpwhit@wm.edu with any questions.

Two physics Ph.D. candidates will be defending their dissertations in October. Brian James Moffit will present “A Measurement of GSE at $Q^2 = 0.1(\text{GeV})^2$ ” at 3 p.m. Oct. 11 in Small Hall, room 109.

Christopher D. Tennant will present “Studies of Energy Recovery Linacs at Jefferson Laboratory” at 2:00 p.m. Oct. 26 in Small Hall Conference Room. Both are open to the public. For more information, e-mail Paula Perry at paula@physics.wm.edu.

Want to vote in state and local elections? Registration and absentee ballot application forms are available in the Dean of Students Office and the Office of Residence Life in the Campus Center. Forms are also online at www.sbc.state.va.us and at web.wm.edu/deanofstudents/voter.php. The registration deadline for the next election is Oct. 10. Call the Dean of Students Office at x2510 or the Williamsburg Registrar at 220-6157 with questions.

World-renowned voice teacher Daniel Ferro will give vocal master lessons in Ewell Recital Hall on Oct. 11 and 12 from 2 to 4:30 p.m. Each student will present at least one song in concert format and then be instructed by Ferro, who has taught at the Juilliard School, the Royal Academy, the Paris Conservatory and the Shanghai Conservatory. The public is invited to watch the classes and no tickets are required. Call Suzanne Seurattan at x1631 with any questions.

Applications for the spring semester program in Washington D.C. for juniors and seniors are

available now and due by 5 p.m. on Oct. 5. Contact Roxanne Adler at roadle@wm.edu or 202-939-4001.

President Gene Nichol is holding office hours to meet with students. Interested individuals and groups can arrange an office appointment of up to 15 minutes anytime from 2 to 3:30 p.m., Oct. 2, or from 1 to 2:30 p.m., Oct. 12. President Nichol will also be hosting a series of student lunches at his home. Limited to 10 students, the first lunch of the semester will take place from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., Oct. 31. To set up a date and time, contact Carla Jordan at x1254 or cajord@wm.edu.

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Yearbook Staff Interest Meeting Looking for a way to get involved on campus? Join the College's yearbook staff! Be a part of preserving history and have your work published in one of the College's oldest publications. Production workers and photographers are needed. Come to the meeting on Thursday, October 5th at 7:00 p.m. in the Colonial Echo office in the basement of the Campus Center to find out more. Contact mbgann@wm.edu with any questions.

Classifieds are FREE for students, and otherwise \$.25/wd./issue and must be pre-paid. Call 757-221-3283 or e-mail fhads@wm.edu for more info.

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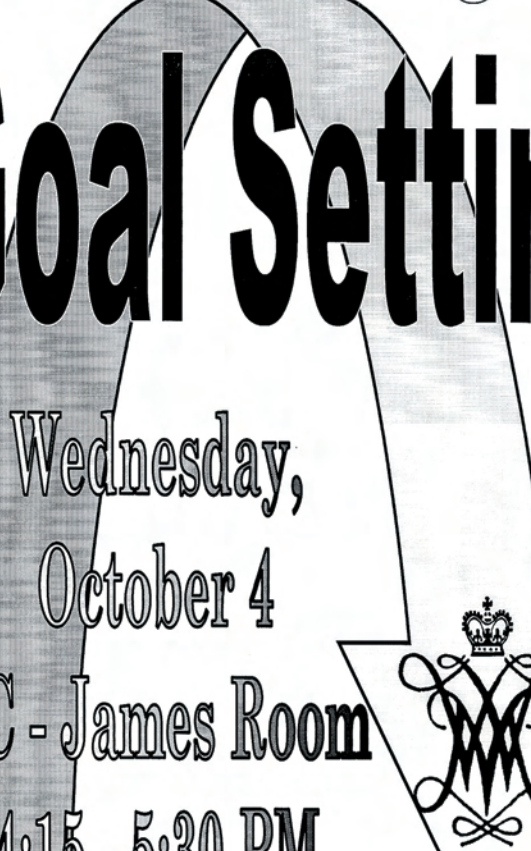
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Goal Setting

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Questions - Please Contact Eric Eickhoff - ejcick@wm.edu



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What’s News— *In Business and Finance*

T-Mobile to Overhaul Service, Marketing

T-Mobile USA is expected to launch a host of new services, including a new generation of Internet phones, and to drop its celebrity pitchwoman, Catherine Zeta-Jones. The company plans to release cellphones as early as October that can roam onto wireless Internet connections at home and in its thousands of Wi-Fi hot spots, people familiar with the plan said. T-Mobile also may become the first U.S. wireless carrier to provide a Vonage-like Internet calling service, people familiar with the matter said. Both services could mean less-expensive monthly phone bills for millions of consumers.

The new initiatives will be followed by a major rebranding effort, phasing out Ms. Zeta-Jones in favor of a more man-on-the-street approach to marketing.

These moves come after T-Mobile committed more than \$4 billion for new radio frequencies during the Federal Communications Commission’s recent spectrum auctions. The new spectrum is expected to be used to build a cellular broadband network that would allow customers to surf the Web on laptops and download cellphone media content such as music and video at fast speeds.

T-Mobile, a unit of Deutsche Telekom, declined to comment.

Health-Care Costs Outpace Inflation

The health-care premiums of employers and their workers have climbed twice as fast as wages and inflation in 2006—to nearly double their cost in 2000—and look to rise at a similar clip next year, two nationwide surveys show.

The average family premium rose 7.7% in 2006, marking the third year employer health-care cost increases have slowed since soaring nearly 14% in 2003, according to a 2,122-employer survey by the Kaiser Family Foundation and Health Research and Educational Trust.

After several years of steep rises, the cost for family coverage under an employer health plan is now \$11,480, well over the annual pay of a full-time minimum wage worker and beyond what many companies and their workers can afford. While 98% of firms with more than 200 workers still provide some sort of employee health benefits, only 60% of smaller companies do. That’s down from 68% in 2000.

Even when employers do offer health insurance, not all workers are eligible for it or can afford it, given that employers require workers to pay an average 27% of the total premium. The share of workers covered by health insurance through their own employer has fallen to 59% from 63% in 2000.

Text Messaging For Faster Food

Hungry people on the go can now use the Internet or text messaging to have their food paid for and ready for pickup by the time they arrive at the restaurant counter.

The service is available in just a handful of cities with a limited number of participating restaurants. New businesses include gomobo.com, which has deals with 24 restaurants in New Haven, Conn., and New York, including two Subway sandwich stores. MyTango, in the San Francisco Bay Area, lets users order food at about 13 eateries, including Una Mas and CCSR Cafe.

It is unclear whether such service will be a big enough improvement from simply ordering takeout over the phone to become successful. Two similar services, one in the U.S. and another in Australia, went out of business within the past few years because of weak demand.

But Mobo is planning to target six new cities in the U.S. in 2007—including Boston, Chicago and Philadelphia—and 12 in 2008. Promoters of such services also note that new technology has made ordering by text message easier and faster than ordering over the phone.

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Executive Pay

Heads of private U.S. research universities with highest compensation for 2003-2004:

NAME	SCHOOL	TOTAL COMPENSATION FROM SCHOOL
Audrey K. Doberstein*	Wilmington College	\$1,370,973
E. Gordon Gee	Vanderbilt University	\$1,326,786
John R. Silber*	Boston University	\$1,253,352
Shirley Ann Jackson	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	\$939,346
Judith Rodin*	University of Pennsylvania	\$934,922
John E. Sexton	New York University	\$897,139

*No longer in post.

Note: Total compensation may include deferred compensation.

Starbucks to Raise Price of Coffee, Beans

Starbucks plans to raise the price of its coffee by about five cents a cup, effective Oct. 3. The increase is for brewed coffee, espresso beverages and every other drink Starbucks makes behind its coffee bars at all company-owned stores in the U.S., and most of its stores in Canada. Starbucks also plans to raise the price of 23 whole-bean coffee varieties by about 50 cents per pound.

The coffee giant last raised prices on its drinks in 2004 and raised the price of its whole-bean coffees about nine years ago. A company spokeswoman said that rising business costs, including for health care and raw ingredients, prompted the price increase.

Health-care costs are a big expense for Starbucks. Chairman Howard Schultz said that by the end of fiscal 2006, Starbucks will have paid more for health insurance than for coffee.

Starbucks faces growing competition in the coffee market. McDonald’s launched a more robust blend of coffee this year, and Dunkin’ Donuts plans to triple the number of stores it operates in the next three years.

Branson’s Billions To Counter Warming

British billionaire Sir Richard Branson plans to invest \$3 billion in technologies to help combat global warming. The money will come from 100% of the profits and other proceeds of his Virgin Group transportation businesses and will be invested over 10 years in biofuels and other environmentally friendly ways to replace oil and coal.

Should his transportation interests fail to throw off enough profit to satisfy the \$3 billion commitment, Sir Richard says he would “most likely” make up the difference with profits from his cellphone, health-club or other businesses.

Sir Richard declined to disclose the 2005 profits of his transportation businesses, which include Virgin Atlantic Airways, a joint venture with Singapore Airlines. In all, Sir Richard’s companies, many of which are closely held, have projected annual revenue of \$14.6 billion this year, of which \$8 billion comes from transportation units, says a spokesman.

Odds & Ends

GM’s finance chief said that the company will continue a “thoughtful” and “thorough” study of a potential alliance with Renault and Nissan and that it expects to wrap up discussions around Oct. 15.... **The U.S. lost the top ranking** as the world’s most competitive economy amid its growing budget deficit, moving into sixth place, according to a World Economic Forum study. Switzerland ranked No. 1 for its flexible markets.

By Jay Hershey

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Michigan Takes Lead From Dartmouth In Ongoing Tussle

By RON ALSOP

The lead in The Wall Street Journal/Harris Interactive ranking of America’s top national business schools seasawed again this year, with the University of Michigan reclaiming the No. 1 spot from Dartmouth College.

Michigan and Dartmouth are clearly the schools to beat, with Dartmouth having achieved a first-place finish in three of the Journal’s six annual rankings and Michigan now having scored two wins. (The University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School is the only school that has succeeded in besting Dartmouth and Michigan.)

Michigan owes its first-place showing in part to its emphasis on practical experience in its M.B.A. program. Recruiters say they prize Michigan graduates because they can connect theory with practice.

Looking Beyond Academics

The rankings are based on how recruiters evaluated the schools on the same 21 attributes, as well as the recruiter’s intention to return and hire a school’s graduates over the next two years. In addition, the rankings include a “mass appeal” factor, which is the number of recruiters that the schools attract.

Harris Interactive conducted the online survey of 4,125 recruiters (up from 3,267 respondents in 2005) from Dec. 13, 2005, to March 16, 2006—with respondents rating only schools where they said they had recent recruiting experience. To qualify for any of the three rankings, a school had to receive at least 20 recruiter ratings.

The rankings aren’t necessarily a reflection of the schools with the most celebrated academic reputations. Although the 21 attributes include the curriculum and faculty, academic quality isn’t the primary concern of most survey respondents. In-

National Ranking

This ranking is based on how recruiters rated each school on 21 attributes, their future plans to recruit at the school, and the number of survey respondents who said they had recruited recently at the school. These schools tend to draw recruiters from many of the same companies, usually large national and multinational firms. **To see more rankings and news about business schools, go to <http://www.careerjournal.com/reports/bschool06/>**

2006 RANK	2005 RANK	UNIVERSITY (BUSINESS SCHOOL)
1	2	University of Michigan (Ross)
2	1	Dartmouth College (Tuck)
3	3	Carnegie Mellon University (Tepper)
4	8	Columbia University
5	7	University of California, Berkeley (Haas)
6	4	Northwestern University (Kellogg)
7	6	University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)
8	9	University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (Kenan-Flagler)
9	5	Yale University

2006 RANK	2005 RANK	UNIVERSITY (BUSINESS SCHOOL)
10	12	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Sloan)
11	13	University of Chicago
12	17	Duke University (Fuqua)
13	11	University of Virginia (Darden)
14	14	Harvard University
15	10	University of Southern California (Marshall)
16	18	Cornell University (Johnson)
17	16	New York University (Stern)
18	15	Stanford University
19	19	University of California, Los Angeles (Anderson)

stead, they care most about the M.B.A. students’ interpersonal and communication skills, teamwork orientation, personal ethics and integrity, analytical and problem-solving abilities, and work ethic.

That helps explain why some of the most renowned schools, such as Harvard and Stanford, don’t rank as highly in the survey as their academic stature might suggest. While recognizing the brainpower of their students and faculty, recruiters complain that they often find graduates of some of the most prestigious institutions more arrogant and less collegial than the M.B.A.s they meet at other schools. Some of the large, elite schools also don’t seem to enjoy as many close, personal relationships with recruiters as smaller M.B.A. programs do, and their career-service offices tend to receive lower scores for customer service.

Overall, the survey respondents appeared happier with the schools this year, giving generally higher ratings on the 21 attributes and indicating that they plan to continue recruiting at the same schools. More than half of the recruiters said they believe the quality of M.B.A. graduates is the same or better today compared with past years.

Companies are hiring far more

M.B.A.s—and at higher salaries—than a few years ago when demand dropped dramatically. In the survey, nearly a quarter of the respondents said they would pay starting salaries of more than \$100,000 this year, compared with 17% in 2005. And 62% said they had raised salaries, up from 48% last year.

Even with the markedly better job market, recruiters say students haven’t become too greedy or demanding—at least not yet.

“This year may have been the sweet spot,” says Maury Hanigan, who runs an M.B.A. talent-scouting service for companies. “Students still felt hungry, so you didn’t see a lot of arrogance, and companies made better, but not outlandish, offers.”

Generally, she adds, companies were pleased with the students they hired, although some didn’t snag as many as they would have liked.

Recruiters do feel grumpy about one thing: a decline in the quantity and quality of M.B.A. students’ work experience. Many schools recently relaxed their experience requirements and started admitting greener students, partly in response to a steep slide in the number of applications and partly because they hope to attract more young

women and minorities.

Long accustomed to interviewing M.B.A.s with a four-year to five-year track record in the workplace, recruiters complain that now they’re seeing more and more students who worked only a year or two before returning to business school. What’s more, their credentials aren’t very impressive because they didn’t work long enough to be given much responsibility or to serve in leadership positions.

“It isn’t just the amount of real-world experience,” says Ms. Hanigan. “It’s the relevance of the experience. Companies hope to find M.B.A. graduates who know their industry and speak the language. If they don’t bring that experience and knowledge, the ramp-up time after they start working is so long.”

That’s the concern of Brad Beggs, a survey respondent who works in real-estate appraisal and consulting in St. Louis. “Hiring students with less work experience is difficult because they have unreasonable expectations about compensation, benefits and authority,” he says. “Meanwhile, they may be less productive and require more training.”

What’s Their Secret?

Why do Dartmouth and the University of Michigan so dominate the top spot in the rankings?

Paul Danos, dean of Dartmouth’s Tuck School of Business, may know better than anyone. A professor and senior associate dean at Michigan’s Ross School of Business before moving to Tuck in 1995, Dr. Danos sees several similarities.

“Both schools have achieved a very good balance between faculty research and commitment to teaching, which I think resonates with employers,” he says. “They also have nice students who aren’t self-centered. It’s a myth that companies want hard-edged employees who will drive their fellow workers into the ground.”

The 19 schools in this year’s national ranking share many of the same recruiters, primarily large companies that hire students from a broad range of the most prominent business schools and pay the highest salaries.



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Tennis star Moulton-Levy a smashing success

HOME FIELD ADVANTAGE



BRAD CLARK

Tennis legend Arthur Ashe, three-time Grand Slam winner, once stated, “Success is a journey, not a destination. The doing is usually more important than the outcome. Not everyone can be number one.” Words, no doubt, that senior tennis player Megan Moulton-Levy has taken to heart. Moulton-Levy has already begun her ascension to that coveted top position, currently ranked in the top 10 nationally with a number of important victories over ranked opponents.

This past August, Moulton-Levy received the International Tennis Association / Arthur Ashe Award for Leadership and Sportsmanship in a luncheon at the National Tennis Center in Flushing, New York. The ITA’s website describes that the award “goes to a player who has exhibited outstanding sportsmanship and leadership, as well as scholastic, extracurricular and tennis achievements.” After the ceremony, Moulton-Levy suited up along with her fellow award winners, putting on an exhibition for the crowd of 24,000 that had come out to celebrate the 11th annual Arthur Ashe Kids’ Day. Who else joined her down on the courts after the exhibition? Oh, just a couple players by the names of Andre Agassi, James Blake, Andy Roddick and Serena Williams.

“Receiving an award in the memory of such a legend, a man that stood for such a great cause, is an honor that I will cherish for the rest of my life,” Moulton-Levy said.

How did she earn this, besides the sportsmanship and all of the other concepts that go along with being a great overall teammate and person? After all, they don’t just give these awards to anyone, right? Simple: by winning nearly every match she plays. So

far, she has claimed victory in five of her six singles matches, as well as six in a row with her sophomore doubles partner Katarina Zoricic, a tandem currently ranked 22nd in the country. Moulton-Levy is but a year removed from one of the greatest seasons ever by a Tribe tennis player. Last fall saw her named the CAA and VaSID player of the year, an NCAA All-American and a national semi-finalist, the first in the program’s history. All told by the end of the season, she had seven wins against the top 25 players in the country — a success she eagerly shared with her family, who serve as the motivators, financiers and support structure for her triumphs and dreams.

“Without them I would be nowhere,” Moulton-Levy said. “Whether I have tears of disappointment or joy, they are there for me no matter what. The only source of pressure I have is myself; my parents just want me to enjoy whatever it is that I put my mind to.”

Indeed, without her family there would be no “Megan Moulton-Levy, All-American tennis player.” If not for her sister, she may never

have even picked up a racket. Thanks to an encouraging older sibling, however, she did. One of her earliest memories of the sport is her first tournament, when she was too hungry to go on and her sister fed her French fries through the fence. The rest, as they say, is history.

So she laces up her shoes every day, intent on improving and fighting for the Tribe and her teammates in her last collegiate season, although it’s hardly her last go round competition-wise. Moulton-Levy has higher aspirations of her own — dreams of one day making it back to the National Tennis Center and lacing it up again, this time for a little tournament called the U.S. Open.

“I never want to have any regrets in life,” Moulton-Levy said. “I am definitely going to try and play after college for at least a year. I don’t want to look back when I’m 40 and say ‘What if?’ I just want to try, and if I don’t succeed then that is something I will have to deal with.”

Yes, on his better days, Brad Clark is a sports columnist for The Flat Hat.

Athlete Profile: Megan Moulton-Levy

Year: Senior
Hometown: Monroe, MI
Height: 5’0”
Dominant hand: Right
2006 fall record to date: 5-1 in singles; 6-0 in doubles
Facts:
• Currently ranked no. 10 in the nation in singles and no. 22 in doubles with partner Katarina Zoricic
• Received the ITA/Arthur Ashe Award for Leadership and Sportsmanship in 2006
• NCAA All-American and national semi-finalist in 2006



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SEPTEMBER 30 TO OCTOBER 6

Football			Women's Field Hockey			Men's Soccer		
Hofstra	Sat 9/30	1 p.m.	North Carolina	Sun 10/1	7 p.m.	Hofstra	Sun 10/1	1 p.m.
			Delaware	Fri 10/6	7 p.m.	James Madison	Fri 10/6	7 p.m.
Volleyball			Women's Soccer			Cross Country		
Towson	Fri 10/6	7 p.m.	Northeastern	Sun 10/1	1 p.m.	Men	Sat 9/30	9 a.m.
			James Madison	Fri 10/6	7 p.m.	Women	Sat 9/30	10:15 a.m.
Men's Golf								
Joe Agee Invitational			Mon 10/2		Bold denotes home game.			

Volleyball serves George Mason 3-2 defeat

BY MADELINE WOLFERT
THE FLAT HAT

After a tough 3-1 loss last Friday to James Madison University, the volleyball team faced off with George Mason University last Saturday and competed fiercely for five stanzas to earn a 3-2 victory over the Patriots (22-30, 30-26, 23-30, 31-29, 15-13).

“Last Friday’s loss to JMU was tough, but I’m really proud of the way we bounced back Saturday

night against GMU,” sophomore libero Jo Sotto said. “We managed to play consistently as a team in a hard-fought five-game match. Our determined effort to finish out the match on top shows how much our team has grown from the beginning of the season.”

The Tribe took an early advantage in the first game, but GMU managed to knot it at 13 and pull ahead to take the game, fending off a late Tribe rally. In the second stanza, the teams stayed close and

changed leads 12 times. Ultimately, the Tribe pressed past a 21-21 tie to win the game. In both the third and fourth games, the College grabbed the early lead, but competition from GMU locked the games and the lead switched back and forth. The Patriots won the third game, but the Tribe held off defeat in the fourth with a final four-point rally and ace by sophomore setter Kim Mount. With the score knotted at 2-2, the match went into a fifth stanza. The Tribe held a close lead at 14-13, and a kill by sophomore outside hitter and libero Abbi Owens, assisted by Mount, was the Tribe’s final key to the 3-2 victory.

Mount tallied 45 assists and 11 digs, while senior libero Kathleen Hawley recorded a match-high 25 digs. Offensively, the Tribe also dominated as Owens registered 21 kills and freshman opposite and outside hitter Lindsey Pflugner had 17.

“I was extremely proud of the way we played together and bounced back for the match against GMU,” Owens said. “We knew what we had to do, and went out and did it. It was a good win for us and we will use that win as a building block and a confidence booster to carry us through the second half of conference play.”

After the Tribe earned its victory over GMU, the team prepared to face the CAA champion Virginia Commonwealth University Rams. The College entered the Wednesday game with its players representing some of the CAA’s best players: freshman opposite and outside hitter Bryana Carey ranking second in aces (0.60), Hawley ranking third in digs (4.72), Mount

placing third for assists per game (11.78) and Pflugner sitting 10th in kills (3.55). However, even with impressive individual statistics and performances in the match, VCU took a 3-1 victory (25-30, 30-21, 30-27, 30-26).

“The biggest key for us is that we play as a team from point one to 30 — the games can’t be won or lost by individuals,” Hawley said. “We have the physical ability and strength to be a top team in the conference this year, it’s just a matter of putting it all together at the same time.”

The contest with VCU began with a tight first stanza, as the Tribe pulled ahead several times and the Rams responded. While the College held just a one-point advantage at 24-23, they rallied to score five of the next six points and grab the opening game. The Rams answered by taking the next three games and the match. The second and third games were close contests, but the Rams rallied to knock in the final points for the win.

Hawley totaled 23 digs, and three players recorded double-doubles during the night. Pflugner tallied 21 digs and a match-high 23 kills. Owens finished with 10 digs and 17 kills, and Mount registered 12 digs and 43 assists.

Although unable to record the win, the Tribe put forward an impressive performance against VCU.

“We look forward to surprising more teams with our level of play and competitiveness,” Sotto said.

The team will have more opportunities to earn wins as it faces conference opponents Towson University and the University of Delaware next weekend.

THIS WEEK IN SPORTS HISTORY ...

October 3, 1951: Bobby Thompson hit a three-run walk off homerun, called “The Shot Heard Round The World,” to lead the New York Giants over the Brooklyn Dodgers in Game 3 of the pennant.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

WOMEN'S SOCCER

♦ Junior midfielder Donna Mataya (*right*) was named to Soccer America’s National Team of the Week in addition to being the CAA Co-Player of the Week. Mataya tallied three goals, leading the Tribe to two victories over the weekend. Against Drexel University on Friday, Mataya’s 10th-minute goal proved to be the game winner as the Tribe dominated the Dragons, 3-0. Mataya was at it again Sunday, leading the Tribe back from a 2-0 halftime deficit against the University of Delaware with two second-half goals, including the game winner as the Tribe went on to win 4-2. On the season, Mataya leads the team with six goals and 12 total points.



BASKETBALL

♦ In recognition of women’s basketball’s turnaround season a year ago, Head Coach Debbie Taylor has been named the W&M Alumni Association’s Coach of the Year. Under Coach Taylor, the Tribe rebounded from a 5-24 season two years ago to post a 15-13 mark which included a school-record 11 conference victories. This turnaround was the nation’s second-best and earned Taylor CAA Coach of the Year honors. The 16th-ranked Tribe women look to build upon their success from last season when they open play in November.

WOMEN'S GOLF



♦ Competing without some of their top players, women’s golf struggled early but recovered on the final day to place 11th at the Nittany Lion Invitational. Tribe golf trailed St. Francis University by two strokes heading into the final round, but thanks to solid scores turned in by junior Kara Siford ‘84 and freshman Robyn English ‘82, the Tribe overtook St. Francis for the 11th-place spot. Siford’s three-day total of 253 gave her Tribe medalist honors and placed her in a tie for 49th overall. Women’s golf continues their season next weekend in Williamsburg when they compete in the ECAC Division I Championships.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

♦ Women’s tennis turned in a solid performance at the 31st annual Milwaukee Tennis Classic. The doubles tandem of senior Megan Moulton-Levy and sophomore Katarina Zoricic, ranked 22nd nationally, have yet to lose a match as they easily defeated the University of Wisconsin’s top doubles team 8-1 to take the championship. Moulton-Levy built on her doubles success as she defeated Texas A&M University’s Anna Lubinsky 7-5, 6-2 to take the top flight singles crown. Freshmen Francine Whu and Carmen Pop placed first in the three-doubles flight as they easily defeated a Wisconsin squad 8-3 in their final. The team will head out to Pacific Palisades, Calif. next week for the ITA All-American Championships.

By Miles Hilder. Mataya photo and women’s golf photo courtesy of Tribeathletics.com.

Box Scores

Field Hockey		
VCU	W, 4-2	Sept. 24
Women's Soccer		
Delaware	W, 4-2	Sept. 24

FOOTBALL

FROM PAGE 10

wide receiver Elliot Mack for 32 yards on his first pass attempt.

Potts was at it again on the College’s next possession, as he faked a hand-off to the running back and hit junior wide receiver Joe Nicholas almost perfectly in stride for a 54-yard touchdown. The Tribe reserve quarterback finished three for four passing for 99 yards and two touchdowns.

“Mike [Potts] did pretty well when he came in there ... he made some nice throws,” Coach Laycock said.

So does this mean a quarterback controversy might be brewing?

“I don’t know, probably not,” Coach Laycock said, “...I rate [the quarterbacks] more on practice ... and Jake [Phillips] has done better in practice, in my estimation.”

Unfortunately, the night wasn’t without some loss for the Tribe. Junior fullback Matt Otey sustained a rib injury and sophomore linebacker Josh Rutter, the College’s leading tackler this season, suffered a knee injury. Both are out for at least next week’s contest.

“I don’t think any of us can afford to lose a player of that caliber without suffering,” Coach Laycock said when asked about Rutter’s injury, “You hope other people can step up and fill in and you can recover from it.”

The Tribe will host Hofstra University tomorrow afternoon at 1 p.m. at Zable Stadium.

Field Hockey D-I Poll

1. University of Maryland
2. Old Dominion University
3. Wake Forest University
4. Ohio State University
5. Boston College
6. University of Virginia
7. Duke University
8. UNC Chapel Hill
9. Penn State University
10. Univ. of Connecticut
11. Villanova University
12. William & Mary

By Womensfieldhockey.com

NSCAA/adidas D-I Women's Soccer Poll

1. University of Notre Dame
2. UNC Chapel Hill
3. Santa Clara University
4. Florida State University
5. UCLA
6. West Virginia University
7. University of Portland
8. Texas A&M University
9. Penn State University
10. Boston University

...
16. William & Mary

USTFCCCA D-I Men's Cross Country Poll

1. University of Wisconsin
2. University of Arkansas
3. University of Colorado
4. Stanford University
5. Iona University
6. University of Texas
7. University of Arizona
8. University of Portland
9. Oklahoma State University
10. Brigham Young University

...
22. William & Mary



JONATHAN SEIDEN + THE FLAT HAT

Freshman Katie McCarney spikes the ball in the Tribe’s 2-3 loss to Northeastern University Sept. 16. The team’s record now stands at 5-9.

SPORTS



Meet the 10th-ranked women’s singles tennis player in the country: Megan Moulton-Levy. See HOME FIELD, page 9.

Brooks powers Tribe past VMI in 38-6 rout

Senior tailback rushes for 149 yards and 3 touchdowns as the College improves to 1-2

BY MILES HILDER
THE FLAT HAT

The Tribe (1-2) put everything together Saturday night as they recorded a decisive 38-6 victory over the Virginia Military Institute Keydets (1-3). The game marked the College’s first win under the lights at Zable Stadium and broke the Tribe’s six-game losing streak dating back to last season.

Stellar running from senior tailback Elijah Brooks highlighted the Tribe’s offense. Brooks recorded the second-best rushing performance of his career with 149 yards on just 15 carries. Three of those carries resulted in touchdowns, the shortest being an 11-yard scamper during which Brooks dodged two VMI tacklers to get into the end zone.

“Elijah [Brooks] is a smart runner, a tough runner,” Head Coach Jimmye Laycock said after the game. “He really has a great knack for seeing things and making cuts and getting to daylight.”

The senior rusher’s 149-yard night was the first time the Tribe has had a 100-plus yard rusher since Oct. 8, 2005, when Brooks rushed for 135 yards against the University of New Hampshire.

“It felt good to get the offensive line and the running game in a rhythm,” Brooks said. “It was fun out there tonight.”

The Tribe set the tone early, when junior linebacker T.J. O’Neill recovered VMI quarterback Jonathan Wilson’s fumble on the third play of the game. It took the College five plays to take the lead as Brooks cut right and darted for the score on a third down from the VMI 20-yard line.

Early in the second quarter and up 14-3, the Tribe drove again, thanks to a big 12-yard run up the gut by redshirt freshman fullback Raphael Bynum and a 20-yard completion from sophomore quarterback Jake Phillips to redshirt freshman wide receiver R.J. Archer. However, on the next

play, Phillips fumbled the snap from center, and the Keydets pounced on it on their own 4-yard line. The turnover was the College’s first of the season. Phillips went on to lose another fumble and throw an interception.

“That bothered me and upset me,” Coach Laycock said when asked about the turnovers. “That is a situation that can really hurt us, but ... we handled adversity well and bounced back.”

VMI could not capitalize on any of the Tribe turnovers due to outstanding play by the College’s defense. On VMI’s possession following Phillips’ first fumble, senior defensive back Richard Riley read a third down Keydet option play perfectly and stopped the runner for a 5-yard loss. The ensuing punt was returned 16 yards by sophomore defensive back Derek Cox, and the Tribe needed just two plays for Brooks to find the end zone for his third score of the night. Cox went on to total career highs in punts returned (four) and punt

return yardage (42).

Midway through the third quarter, freshman defensive lineman Adrian Tracy recorded a devastating sack on Kyle Hughes, who replaced the injured Wilson at quarterback for VMI, resulting in a loss of 11 yards. Tracy’s night included nine tackles, five of which were unassisted, and 1.5 sacks in addition to a forced fumble. His play did not go unnoticed, as Tracy was named Atlantic 10 Rookie of the Week.

“[Adrian Tracy] played an exceptional game,” Coach Laycock said.

As a result of Tracy’s key sack, VMI was forced to punt and Cox returned the punt for 24 yards, the longest Tribe return of the season as well as the longest in his career. This return set up a quick Tribe score as junior quarterback Mike Potts entered the game and connected with sophomore

See FOOTBALL + page 9

Tribe Football Game Day

Up Next: Hofstra University Pride
When/Where: Tomorrow, 1 p.m. at Zable Stadium
Tribe Record: 1-2 Hofstra Record: 1-2
Tribe Last Week: 38-6 win over VMI
Hofstra Last Week: 33-30 loss vs. #19 Towson
All-Time Series: Tribe leads 2-1
Streak: Tribe has won last two meetings
Notes: Saturday’s contest will mark the 300th game of Head Coach Jimmye Laycock’s career at the College. Coach Laycock has compiled a 176-121-2 record in his 27 years as head coach of the Tribe. His 176 wins make him the ninth-winningest active coach in all of Division I-A and I-AA.

As part of the Atlantic-10 Football conference’s television package, the Tribe-Pride game will be televised live on Comcast SportsNet in selected areas. It will air on tape delay in Williamsburg.

Individual Statistical Leaders

Passing			
Jake Phillips	48 of 91	422 yards	2 TD
Mike Potts	12 of 14	198 yards	3 TD
Rushing			
Elijah Brooks	237 yards	5.4 avg	3 TD
DeBrihan Holmes	95 yards	7.9 avg	1 TD
Receiving			
Joe Nicholas	12 rec.	170 yards	2 TD
D.J. McAulay	12 rec.	147 yards	1 TD
Elliot Mack	10 rec.	98 yards	2 TD
R.J. Archer	7 rec.	64 yards	0 TD
Defense			
Kevin Allen	22 tackles	0 sacks	1 INT
Josh Rutter	20 tackles	0 sacks	0 INT
Adrian Tracy	18 tackles	1.5 sacks	0 INT
Travis McLaurin	13 tackles	0 sacks	0 INT
T.J. O’Neill	13 tackles	1 sack	0 INT



KYLE MCMAHON • THE FLAT HAT
Sophomore forward Andrew Hoxie wards off a defender during the Tribe’s 0-2 loss against the University of Delaware Sept. 24. The team is now 5-5.

Men’s soccer blanks Drexel, falls to UDel

BY HEATHER IRELAND
THE FLAT HAT

The men’s soccer team played two Colonial Athletic Association conference games this weekend, triumphing over Drexel University 4-0, but falling 0-2 to the University of Delaware, giving them a conference record of 1-1 so far this season.

With senior goalkeeper Kris Rake serving as the backbone of their defense, the Tribe kept Drexel off the scoreboard entirely, finishing with a final score of 4-0. Carrying a three-game winning streak into the contest, this win over a conference opponent marks the longest winning streak for the College since the 2002 season.

Once again, the Tribe started off their play strong, with the first goal coming in the sixth minute of play when sophomore forward Andrew Hoxie hit the net off an assist by freshman midfielder Price Thomas.

“We had a great start and scored another early goal,” Head Coach Chris Norris said. “It allows us to be much more relaxed when we have a lead, especially early in a game. It opened some things up, and I thought we might have been able to get another goal before the half.”

Despite two other near-goals in the first half, the score remained 1-0 going into the second half when the Tribe defense had to step up their play against Drexel’s newly-invigorated offense. The tables soon turned again, however, as the Tribe took control of the game and Hoxie found the net off of an assist from junior midfielder Doug Ernst. Ernst worked hard to ensure the third goal of the game creating several openings for senior forward Pat Scherder, who was able to put one into the left side of the net, extending their lead to 3-0.

With just three minutes of play remaining, the ball moved down the field to senior forward Jarrett Thomas, who earned his third assist of the season with a pass to redshirt junior midfielder Ryan Overdevest, which Overdevest put into the back of the net. Rake made a total of six saves to garner his second shutout of the season and his 13th overall, placing him fifth in the Tribe record books.

The Tribe faced Delaware Sunday, but were unable to come up with another win, ending up at the other end of a shutout with the final score 2-0 in favor of Delaware. Within the first several minutes of play, Delaware got on the scoreboard with the only goal of the first half, giving them the early lead. Despite putting a few of their own shots on goal, the Tribe was unable to bring any of their first half attempts to fruition.

Not long into the second half, Delaware scored the second and final goal of the game and put their energy into warding off the Tribe offense that barraged them for the last ten minutes of play, but to no avail. The Tribe took some very close shots, but each was denied by the Delaware goalkeeper, who made a total of seven saves throughout the game, compared to junior goalkeeper Brennan Wergley’s one save.

Tonight the Tribe travels north to take on Hofstra University at 7 p.m. The Tribe will host Northeastern University Sunday at 1 p.m.



IRENE ROJAS • THE FLAT HAT
Sophomore quarterback Jake Phillips hands the ball off to senior running back Elijah Brooks during Saturday night’s 38-6 victory over VMI.

New York Mets favorites to breeze through playoffs, win World Series

FROM THE SIDELINES



GRAHAM WILLIAMSON

Although foggy in my own memory, 1991 was undoubtedly a memorable year. A wave of artistic genius swept the nation as Marky Mark and the Funky Bunch’s hit single “Good Vibrations” sat near the top of the charts, while Arnold controlled the box office with “Terminator 2: Judgment Day.”

Why am I reminiscing over the boundless glories of a random year in the early ‘90s, you ask? Because in 1991, the Atlanta Braves won the National League East division title after having the worst record in baseball the previous year. This may seem trivial in comparison to Marky Mark and the Funky Bunch, but the Braves would go on to win their division for the next 14 consecutive seasons. Such dominance has never been witnessed in Major League Baseball history.

However, for the first time in 15 years, the Braves will miss the playoffs this season. Although it seems sacrilegious to make playoff predictions without the Braves in the mix, the postseason is filled with both upstart young squads and perennial contenders. **American League Postseason Rankings**

4. Detroit Tigers
Making their first playoff appearance in 19 years, the Tigers will enter the postseason possessing both a fearless mentality and a

plethora of young talent. However, the Tigers lack the experience needed to win a playoff series. Also, key rookie starter Justin Verlander has allowed six or more runs in three of his last six starts.

3. Minnesota Twins
Sadly, the postseason will be a tale of what could have been for the Twins. All hopes for a title were dashed when their young stud Francisco Liriano was deactivated for the remainder of the season. Even with MVP candidate Johan Santana and breakout rookie Boof Bonser, the Twins’ rotation will not be able to carry them past the lethal Yankee lineup.

2. New York Yankees
Despite losing its top two run-producing outfielders during a grueling 162-game schedule, the Yankees picked up the salary of the most underrated right fielder in the game, Bobby Abreu, and coasted to an AL East division championship. Now with the return of Sheffield and Matsui, the Yanks can be described as nothing less than an offensive juggernaut. Although offense is important, come playoff time, pitching wins championships, and the Yanks’ staff simply isn’t strong enough (most runs allowed of any playoff team) to make it past the Oakland Athletics squad in the ALCS.

1. Oakland Athletics
Every fall, the Athletics charge into the playoffs riding a wave of momentum. However, every year they find a way to drastically underachieve. So, history would have it that the A’s are due for another disappointing postseason. However, this year will be different. Obvious Comeback Player of the Year recipient Frank Thomas is playing like he did in, oh, say, 1991. The resurgence of the “Big Hurt” combined with the return of ace Rich Harden (8 IP, 12 K’s, 1 W since return) will give the A’s that extra punch needed to make it to the Fall Classic. **National League Postseason Rankings**

4. St. Louis Cardinals
Coming out of the worst division in all of baseball, the Cardinals will barely limp their way into the playoffs — assuming the Houston Astros don’t make one of the biggest one-month comebacks in history. With pitchers Mark Mulder and Jason Isringhausen on the disabled list, the Cards will fall to the Padres in the NLDS.

3. Los Angeles Dodgers
With five games left to play, the NL Wild Card is still very much up for grabs, but the Dodgers will somehow find a way past the Phillies, who always manage to choke come playoff time. However, the Dodgers’ playoff lives will be short-

lived as the Mets will sweep them in four games.

2. San Diego Padres
Behind first basemen Adrian Gonzalez, the Padres will quietly do some damage this postseason. Adrian who? Leading the Padres in batting average, home runs and runs batted in, Adrian Gonzalez will help power the Pads to the NLCS where they will fall to the New York Mets.

1. New York Mets
After numerous seasons with enormous payrolls and wretched team chemistry, the Mets finally got it right this offseason, picking up Carlos Delgado and Billy Wagner, making them a complete team in all aspects of the game. Thus, they are my pick to defeat the A’s in the World Series. With 62 stolen bases, Jose Reyes sets the table for RBI machine Carlos Beltran (40 HR, 114 RBIs). The Mets’ experienced pitching staff features wily veterans Pedro Martinez and Tom Glavine. If that isn’t enough, the Mets have a stout defense anchored by David “Web Gem” Wright. However, the key to their championship squad will be the flame-throwing Wagner, who has both the electric stuff and mental toughness necessary for a closer on a world champion roster.

Graham Williamson is a sports columnist for The Flat Hat. His Cleveland Indians didn’t do so hot this year.



Fernando Valle sheds some light on cultural transitions and life as a radio personality. See **THAT GUY**, page 13.

More than just a coffeehouse

An outpost of counter-culture, steeped in history and pitching Fair Trade

By ASHLEY GRIGGS
THE FLAT HAT

Positioned between old campus and Colonial Williamsburg sits the College's own little piece of bohemia, the Meridian Coffeehouse. On the exterior, the student-run cafe, located at 206 South Boundary Street, blends into the traditional setting of the college town. Once inside, however, the alternative gathering spot takes on an artistic life of its own.

"[The Meridian] is an offbeat clubhouse," Business Manager Erin Crowder, a senior, said. "It's a place where you meet all sorts of people."

The locale attracts a diverse group of students and Williamsburg residents, particularly those with unconventional tastes. "[The Meridian] saved me freshman year," Crowder said. "It's like a fraternity with girls."

Open from 7 p.m. to midnight, the coffeehouse features a broad spectrum of atmospheres. Weekends may draw in large crowds with live music performances, typically of the

acoustic or indie variety. Conversely, weeknights are often quiet with just a handful of people filtering in and out.

One unique attribute that the arty cafe can claim is low prices. All items, including coffees, teas, cookies and snacks, are sold for 50 cents. Moreover, as of this year, the site only sells Fair Trade Certified coffee. "We're kind of back to our hippie roots," Crowder said.

Musical performances, which usually feature amateur artists, are predominately free. "[The Meridian] is an extremely low-cost venue for quality artistic expression," General Manager Thom Silverstein, a junior, said.

The cafe originated in 1992 as Zarathustra's Coffeehouse. In 1995, the shop changed and became what is now the current Meridian. The initial individuals that gathered at the Meridian considered themselves to be part of an underground movement of intellectuals.

Over the years, the regulars started to include a range of students — hippies, drama kids, punks and the current group associated with the indie sub-culture. "There was traditionally

a 'Meridian type,' which sort of disappeared," Silverstein said. "They defied stereotypes and were outside of the mainstream William and Mary culture, whether it was due to musical preference, sexuality or other social reasons."

When the Daily Grind opened next to the University Center, many feared for the staying power of the Meridian, which sits on the fringes of the College's campus and is known for its eccentricity. "Everyone predicted Meridian would take a nose dive," Crowder said. Nevertheless, students continued to support the artsy venue and the Meridian Coffeehouse remains open today.

As for the Meridian's physical position on campus, its patrons appreciate its separation from many of the more popular entertainment scenes. "You don't come [to the Meridian] unless you've been seeking it out, like a journey to see the Dalai Lama," Crowder said. In fact, the Meridian's off-centeredness complements its departure from mainstream culture.

"The environment embraces a more romantic outlook on life, a more visceral experience," junior Curt Gray said. The interior of the coffeehouse is also richly engrained with a history steeped in the students that have, for years, passed time there. From the shelves loaded with donated books, includ-

See **COFFEEHOUSE** + page 12



NICHOLE LIDSTROM • THE FLAT HAT

The Meridian Coffeehouse on South Boundary Street provides an offbeat alternative to other coffee shops and frequently features live entertainment.

CW welcomes autumn with contests of skill, stomach

By MEGAN O'CONNOR
THE FLAT HAT

The city of Williamsburg kicked off the fall season with the Merchants Square Autumn Festival last Sunday amid temperatures reminiscent of the most sweltering days of summer. The event featured a live bluegrass band, face painting, a juggler and local vendors offering produce, crafts and baked goods — as well as an intense apple-pie bake-off and the much-anticipated pie-eating contest that followed.

All but three competitors in the pie-eating contest were students at the College, each with their own strengths and strategies. Senior Tyler Trumbo planned to make up for a lack of experience by utilizing a technique that he called "The Cannonball," the aim of which is to spill as much pie out of the tin as possible.

While many aspiring champions were loosening their shorts, doing stretches to expand their stomachs and practicing contorting their mouths for maximum pie intake, senior Tim Boykin stood by calmly. "I'm pretty confident in my ability to eat at high rates of speed," he said. "I once ate 30 pieces of pizza at a time, so I'm pretty excited for this."

As soon as the winners of the baking competition were announced, the 13 hungry competitors lined up along a table covered neatly with a crisp white tablecloth and 13 carefully weighed pies, provided by the Jamestown Pie Company. Trashcans were strategically placed around the table, and eager onlookers were warned to back up. After stating the rules, including a restriction against holding the pie up to the face, a Merchants Square event staff member called out, "On your mark, get set, go!" and 13



COURTESY PHOTO • LAUREN BOSTON



MEGAN O'CONNOR • THE FLAT HAT

Student Assembly President Ryan Scofield, a senior, won the highly anticipated apple pie-eating contest, a part of the Merchant Square Autumn Festival held last Sunday on Duke of Gloucester Street.

faces plunged into their respective tins.

The crowd pressed in around the hunched-over rivals as they reduced the once-clean table to a cinnamon goo-covered battleground amidst cheers from friends and curious onlookers who found themselves

See **AUTUMN** + page 12



SARAH GRAYCE • THE FLAT HAT

The Williamsburg Farmers Market attracts consumers of all ages with locally grown produce and charm.

Merchants produce market

By BETSY DOUGERT
THE FLAT HAT

From now until Oct. 21, farmers and bakers from all over Virginia will be hawking their wares in Merchants Square on Saturday mornings from 8 a.m. until noon. The Williamsburg Farmers Market consists of over 20 vendors selling everything from homemade pies and cookies to organically grown vegetables and flowers and even fresh meats

and shellfish.

Libbey Oliver, market manager for the Williamsburg Farmers Market, believes that the quality of the food sold at the market is far better than that found in a grocery store. "The farmers are dedicated to bringing fresh food to you the day they picked it or the day after. It's not sitting on a shelf or in a box," she said.

Besides being fresher than your average grocery store produce, the fruits and vegetables also tend

to come in wider varieties and at lower prices than those found in chain grocery stores. "The quality, variety and freshness beats grocery stores," Economics Department Chair and Vice-Mayor Clyde Haulman said. Haulman often promotes the Farmers Market in his lecture classes.

The market offers a wide variety of products, ranging from the basic potatoes and organic lettuce

See **MARKET** + page 12

Minor options for English majors

Like many of my fellow seniors (and even some eager beaver juniors), I attended the Career Fair last week. Dressed up in my best "business casual" — because I didn't want to look like I was trying too hard — I wandered

CONFUSION CORNER



Lauren Bell

through the University Center meeting rooms. All around me, self-motivated, dynamic business-types were handing out pamphlets, shaking hands and hanging impressive tri-colored banners. Some of them even had snacks.

Oh yes, the Career Fair is a very seductive little operation. For the hour or so that I was there, I actually thought that I wanted a career. It was like Disneyland, only for people that like Excel. Everyone seemed to love their jobs so much, and they were just so darn overjoyed to tell the students. For that small stretch of time, all my dreams of being a professional pirate-ninja-rapper flew out the window, replaced by the exciting options of the "real world." I could be a market analyst, or an insurance agent or even — golden

hope of hopes — an investment banker!

Of course, these are only options if you are majoring in a subject structured around the working world. Business majors tend to do very well with this. They know about things like "budgets" and "conference calls" and "wearing ties." English-sociology double majors with a strong interest in writing do not do so well.

In fact, a slightly antagonistic dichotomy thrives between the business kids and the English kids — probably because business people are jealous they don't get to use the phrase "antagonistic dichotomy." If I were to try to sneak into the very imposing Tyler Hall (again, dressed in my finest business casual), the business majors would beat me to death with those adorable poster-board presentations they're always carrying around. They can sense an English major from a distance of nine board rooms; I think it's that wonderful Tucker smell.

On the flip side, if a business major were to stumble into an English class, the English majors would out-pretentious her until she cried. It's not that we think business majors are inherently bad people, it's just that we're threatened by them. We know that even though English majors are the

See **MAJORS** + page 12

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— compiled by stephen knapp

On-Campus Events

♦ Tonight, UCAB will host its weekly Fridays @ 5 concert with **Scatch Track** playing on the UC Terrace. Also, come have a laugh as UCAB hosts **Comedy Fest** featuring comedians **Hard 'n' Phirm**, **Tim Young** and other comedians in the UC Commonwealth at 9 p.m.

To have an event printed in the Variety Calendar, e-mail fhvrtv@wm.edu before 5 p.m. Tuesday.

Area Events

♦ Tonight at the NorVa, **Beenie Man** will play with **Tanto Metro**, **Deconte**, **Shocking Vibes** and **Early** at 10 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and are available online at ticketmaster.com. As part of the “Groovin’ in the Garden” concert series at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens in Richmond, Va., **Martin Sexton** and **Darrell Scott** will play tonight, with Sexton coming on at 6 p.m. and Scott playing at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 in advance on lewisginter.org and are \$20 at the door. At the Jewish Mother in Virginia Beach, **Buckethead** and **That 1 Guy** will perform at 9 p.m., with the doors opening at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$16 at jewishmother.com and are \$20 at the door. Tomorrow on the UC Terrace, UCAB will host a free **Street Carnival** at 11 a.m. The Reves Center will also host an **International Exposition** in the Sunken Garden, beginning at 11 a.m. and ending around 3 p.m.



Heroman

By Thomas Baumgardner

Horoscopes

Libra: Sept. 23 - Oct. 22



Your obsession with Spanish soap operas and their sultry speech will have you wondering this week what the hell you are doing with your life.

Scorpio: Oct. 23 - Nov. 21



After silent concentration on learning the art of becoming a skydiving instructor, it would probably help to tell the students about your horrible stutter.

Sagittarius: Nov. 22 - Dec. 21



Like your brother Scorpio, you will become interested in silent meditation and begin taking yoga, only to be discouraged when the teacher is Mr. T.

Capricorn: Dec. 22 - Jan. 19



You can not compete with your friends’ “interesting” and long-winded stories. But your favorite one about throwing up in a Pringles can just pisses them off.

Aquarius: Jan. 20 - Feb. 18



Your recent purchase of a Swiss army knife will be helpful when you have to open a bottle, cut rope and tell the time in Burma all at once. You’ll see why.

Pisces: Feb. 19 - March 20



With the changing of the seasons your classes seem to be infested with coughs and sneezes, at which you will scoff and tell them to show some respect.

Aries: March 21 - April 19



Having a “Christmas in September” party is not a bad idea, but there are many ways to create the effect besides spraying people with a fire extinguisher, jerk.

Taurus: April 20 - May 20



Your obsession with pressing buttons will catch up to you this week when you press the wrong one in the Jamestown elevator and end up in Nova Scotia.

Gemini: May 21 - June 21



This week you will come to a fork in the road and be forced to make a life-altering decision. It will be made for you when your car ends up in a ditch.

Cancer: June 22 - July 22



With the WWE having a strong impact on your life, you will discover the importance of an intro song, a megaphone and “powerbombing” your adversaries.

Leo: July 23 - Aug. 22



Your sleep deprivation has become a big problem, until your trip to the mountains and sipping on a large flask leaves you with a large gray beard and the clap.

Virgo: Aug. 23 - Sept. 22



You’ll realize that switching majors may have been the best decision you’ve ever made. After the bagel-over-questionable-banana decision this morning, that is.

..... compiled by stephen knapp

COFFEEHOUSE

FROM PAGE 11

ing nearly everything from Victor Hugo to Fyodor Dostoevsky, to the vintage couches strewn across the room, Meridian has a personality entirely its own. A complete history of the coffeehouse hangs above the worn down piano, which rests in

the back corner of the front room. The entire design of the house exists as its own pictorial history. Colorful posters and strung lights drape the walls, while paintings and sketches done by Meridian’s own resident artist Jim Carmines fill the interior with memories and an assortment of creativity.

As the Meridian is a student-run establishment, its staff consists

entirely of volunteers who typically work two and one-half hours a week. The volunteers donate their time to keep the hangout spot in business. According to staff member junior Jason Cutler, Jr., approximately 70 percent of the clientele are volunteer employees.

For more information about Meridian, visit Myspace.com/meridiancoffeehouse.

ing in excitement that “we get ribbons?!” and disappearing to claim his. Kiernan was winded but resolute. “Next year ... next year,” he said of his defeat. “Ryan did a good job.”

The three top eaters were each presented with a check to donate to a philanthropy of their choice. The third place winner, sophomore David Esteves, donated his \$50 to the climbing club, Kiernan gave his \$100 to promote cystic fibrosis research and Scofield handed his \$150 to the Delta Phi Fraternity for the Zachary Vaughan Memorial Scholarship.

This was the first year that Merchants Square has hosted the Autumn Festival, but a representative said that judging by the turn-out, a repeat is definitely possible.

Left Brain/Right Brain

Rebus Puzzles

PPOD

INSULT
+ INJURY

FUSS
nothing

TIME
↓

night fly

... Fairy
... Wolf
... Duckling

JANOB

house
PRAIRIE

love sight
sight
sight

often often
often often
not

LOV

out
LEG

Directions: A rebus is a picture representation of a name, word or phrase. Each rebus puzzle above portrays a common word or phrase. Can you guess the expression that each brainteaser represents?

Source: niehs.nih.gov

MARKET

FROM PAGE 11

to the more obscure Lemon on a Stick Flower found at Amy’s Garden, or Honey Jelly spread found at Bees ’n’ Blossoms. In addition, pasta, peanuts, pesto and herbs can be found in many varieties.

Options for a quick breakfast include the oversized cinnamon rolls found at Betsy’s Baked Goods or the classic blueberry muffins from Aromas. Baked goods, flowers and meats cost about equal to what you’d pay commercially, with produce costing slightly less. Miniature pumpkins to decorate the dorm room start around 50 cents, although the decorated ones tend to be a little more pricey.

Many students enjoy the market’s local atmosphere. “It’s a colorful experience,” junior Elise Helgesen said. “It’s a good opportunity for college students to mix with the community, if they can make it out of bed on Saturday morning.”

Interaction with the community turns the Farmers Market from a simple place to buy food into a real experience. Visitors will notice farmers greeting their repeat customers personally and even remembering their preferences (and if they’re really lucky, setting something aside for them). “The farmers really like people,” Oliver said. “It’s fun for them to see customers, make friends, interact and educate them about the food and how to cook it — even what it is.”

Farmers come from as far away as Culpepper and Shenandoah counties because the market puts them in contact with customers they couldn’t meet



HANNAH JONES • THE FLAT HAT

The Farmers Market often features a range of goods, such as fruit from area farms and locally harvested honey.

MAJORS

FROM PAGE 11

greatest students in the world, we will probably not make as much money as the business majors. And secretly, this bothers us.

Why can’t one make a career out of reading and being snarky? Certainly there are books that need to be read — Oprah cannot support the book industry alone. And certainly there is snark that needs to be ... snarked. But the Career Fair simply did not see the demand for these skills.

Oh sure, they had a few choices for non-business types. The Peace Corps recruited heavily. Maybe it’s just me, but I didn’t really like that one of the few options for my major, as someone who doesn’t know about accounting, was to be shipped off to a third world country. I’m sure it’s a wonderful experience for many people: my friend Bonnie would love to join the Peace Corps. Bonnie is also a linguistics major.

So what are the options? There’s always optimism,

Sudoku

9			1	3				2
		6	5			7		4
	4	8		6	2			
		7			1	9		8
		2	8		9	4		
8		9	4			1		
			2	4		8	6	
7		4			5	2		
2				1	6			7

Last Week’s Solution

5	4	2	3	7	6	1	8	9
7	1	3	9	8	5	6	2	4
9	8	6	1	2	4	7	3	5
1	3	4	8	5	2	9	6	7
2	9	5	6	3	7	8	4	1
6	7	8	4	9	1	3	5	2
3	6	1	5	4	9	2	7	8
8	5	7	2	1	3	4	9	6
4	2	9	7	6	8	5	1	3

Directions: Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each three-by-three block contain all of the digits 1 through 9.
Source: krazydad.com



but English majors aren’t really big fans of that. I could sell out to the man, if the man would have me. It would mean resigning myself to a life of spreadsheets and watercooler talk, but I do enjoy having a community coffee maker.

And I could always secretly nurture a sense of superiority over my co-workers. When “Paradise Lost” comes up during a weekly meeting, I will smugly remind my co-workers that it was Milton, not Morton, who wrote it. If, for some reason, great literature does not crop up in conversation, I will make it crop up. “Oh, the Excel template? I thought you said ‘The Tempest.’ Silly me. Since we’re talking about it anyway, did you want me to recite Caliban’s speech for you?” I can spend a whole meeting trying to draw parallels between The Dawson Report and “For Whom the Bell Tolls.” I’ll be the kid putting commas in all the inter-office memos. I’ll make a career out of being the office’s personal English nerd, and the business world won’t know what hit it.

Lauren Bell is the Confusion Corner columnist for The Flat Hat. She’ll out-pretentious you any day of the week.

AUTUMN

FROM PAGE 11

getting sucked into the action. After a few minutes, a close race developed between senior Ryan Scofield and freshman Daniel Kiernan, side-by-side and attacking their pies with vigor.

Eventually, it was Scofield who emerged victorious, holding up his demolished pie plate in a triumphant display of fast-food enthusiasm at its most American.

“I’ve been training for months. I want to thank my family and God, and also my competitors for a hard-fought victory,” he said, right before discover-



By TEGAN NEUSTATTER
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

That Guy: Fernando Valle

Fernando Valle, or Nando, as he prefers to be called, may spend his semesters studying in Williamsburg, but during his breaks he lives it up in his hometown of Rio de Janeiro. This week, Nando chats with us about his job as a webcaster, his internship with DHL and his position as intramural sports supervisor.

How did you handle the transition from Brazil to the United States?

I moved to the United States when I was 14, then I moved back [to Brazil] when I was 17. At 18, I came to college here. College was an easy transition because I had already been experienced with [the United States]. It was more a transition from North to South because I lived in Connecticut before. And it was different because I didn't have my family with me. Also, it kind of sucks being legal at one point and then not being able to legally drink after.

How did you get into refereeing?

I decided to make a couple bucks, so I went over to Rec Sports to start officiating. After about six months I got promoted to supervisor. I used to play club soccer, and I hurt myself playing club soccer, and they just offered me good money to be a referee and I decided not to go back to playing.

What exactly do you do as the intramural supervisor?

There's a lot of behind-the-scenes work that a lot of people don't see. It's the scheduling, finding out conflicts and making sure that everyone is safe. I try to see every team playing indoor soccer, so when I have to make playoff schedules I know who should be where. I try to instruct all my officials on what players could be a liability to us and which ones couldn't.

Explain to me how webcasting works.

In my sophomore year, me and a friend of mine decided that the commentating on sports was awful and that we could do a better job. I talked to one of the other supervisors who was involved with WMTV, and the next year we tried to do soccer, but it couldn't work because we couldn't find a power outlet on Albert-Daly Field. But [the supervisor] got me in contact with Pete Clausen, who is the director

of information for Tribe Athletics, and from then on I went to coach Al Alberts, who is an advisor now with the soccer team. I just started [commentating] this year, and my friend is my co-host and we do every men's and women's soccer home game, which is available on tribeathletics.com. It's actually pretty cool. I got to meet a lot of the players. I interviewed [sophomore forward] Andrew Hoxie, [men's head soccer coach] Chris Norris and a couple of alumni and other people who are involved with soccer and athletics in general.

What aspects of a sport do you focus on when you're commentating?

I'm the color commentator, so I try to talk more about tactics, and use whatever little knowledge I have of playing and watching a ton of soccer. I try to give the parents and fans a bit of a better view of what's really happening on the field 'cause it's radio.

You are one of the founding members of the local Kappa Sigma fraternity chapter. Who approached you about starting it on campus?

They had an information meeting my sophomore year. I thought it was kind of cool, but I didn't go. Eventually I went to my friend Jeff Hughes, who lived on my freshman hall, and I was in his room and I saw the little card. I thought about it and he said, "Well, you should come out," and about a week later I joined. I think I was the 11th guy to join and now we're at 50 and on our way to getting chartered this fall. It's all pretty cool how it all fell together. It's been two years of work and it's been one of my main priorities on campus. I really feel like it's something we've established for the long term.

Tell me about your internship with DHL in New York City.

I was captain of the copy machine for a while. Eventually they put me up as supervisor when the supervisor went on vacation. It's kind of cool because I was in charge of a department of four people. I actually found out that I could fire my other intern, but I didn't, though I came very close. I don't plan on working there again at that office; it's not exactly what I want to do. As far as future plans, I do plan on going back to New York for at least a couple of years and then maybe make it back all the way to Brazil. But who knows, that's way too far ahead.

Pencils ready, it's pop quiz time

So, I've noticed a little problem around campus. When I ask people for suggestions on sex column topics, they often suggest that I provide advice on technique and etiquette issues that I've written about

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS



Kate
Prengaman

before, which implies to me that I have a problem. It's not that people aren't reading the column (I hope), but that people aren't recognizing themselves in the "what not to do" sections. So, I developed a quiz so that we can all free ourselves from the comforts of denial

Directions: Cut out this column, take the quiz in private and use this opportunity to really evaluate your sexual choices. Be honest — if you do it, admit it. For every "yes," I'd suggest considering if that's truly the choice you'd like to be making, and if not, try to make

a healthier and hotter change.

Do you have oral sex without protection?

Sure, we've all done it. But unless you are monogamous with an STI-tested partner, you can contract a lot of nasty stuff from oral sex, including herpes and gonorrhea of the throat. Several companies make flavored condoms, which you can cut to make a vagina-barrier as well. Ask your partner if there are any risks you should specifically be concerned about.

Do you let some teeth slip into your blowjob technique?

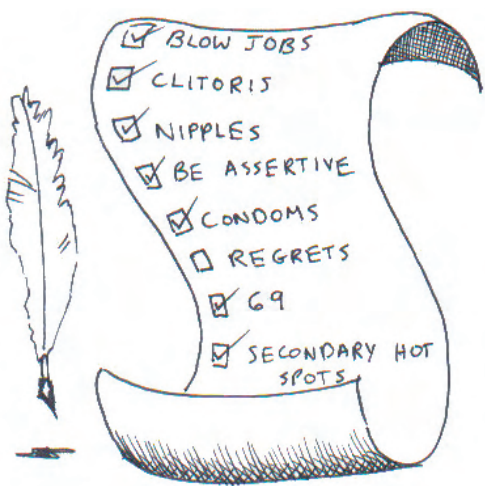
Again and again, guys tell me to remind women that teeth and the penis shaft are not and will never be friends. Sure, you get caught up in the moment, especially if you're attempting to 69, and you slip for a second. It's forgivable if it happens every once in a while, but it should never be a habit. Assume the toothless, old lady lip curl, use your tongue and make sure you've got plenty of saliva. You'll have him happily moaning much faster if your teeth are kept away from the action.

Do you ignore the clitoris and use your fingers for penetration instead?

If you're going to have sex, put on a condom and have sex, but if you want to use your fingers to bring a woman to orgasm, it's the clitoris you want. Use one hand to spread her open, and one finger on the other hand to move slowly and surely around the clitoris. Your controlled precision will have her going crazy.

Do you wake up with regret after a night of intercourse?

If you're not happy with the sex you've been having, or the circumstances surrounding the sex, you owe it to yourself to figure out what's wrong. Hooking up with people you shouldn't be? Getting too drunk and



having sloppy, less-satisfying intercourse? Remember that bad sex isn't worth having and then regretting.

Do you continue quietly through a mediocre hook-up instead of communicating to your partner?

If you aren't enjoying yourself while making out, a large part of that is your fault. Your partner can't read your mind, so you need to express to them what you'd really enjoy right then. And obviously say it with your sexy voice, so that they get excited about your suggestion as well.

Do you use the same moves and techniques on every partner without trying to discover the unique touches that really get them going?

Everyone has different body parts that turn them on, be it their ears, neck, nipples, stomach, inner thighs or even feet. Exploring someone else's body and learning how to make it respond best to you is one of the best parts of sex.

Do you always rush to sex without building enough suspense with foreplay?

Foreplay is crucial for a lot of reasons, including getting both partners hard or wet. Also, the more sexual tension you can build up, the more you get to enjoy the final release.

Do you neglect the secondary hot spots?

Your partner is not just lips and crotch, or even just lips, boobs and crotch. There's an enormous list of other places you can touch and tease to get them excited before you hit the main events. You might find, surprisingly, that you can do a lot without even reaching those obvious spots.

Do you thrust with just one rhythm?

Sex is great fun, but it can get boring quickly if you just bounce together with the same depth and speed for the duration. Try slower, more shallow thrusts and then switch to deeper moves. Change your angle, spiral your hips and try to surprise your partner enough to get a moan out of them.

Kate Prengaman is the Flat Hat sex columnist. She wants to make sure you've been keeping up with your studies.



New Facebook pokes up problems

By ALEXANDER ELY
FLAT HAT ASST. VARIETY EDITOR

There was a time when it was accepted practice to put off one's homework in favor of stalking on Facebook. Due to recent changes implemented by the management of Facebook, as well as the potential sale of the company to a major online conglomerate, however, many students now feel less secure with the social networking site. Many have even contemplated removing their account altogether, if they have not already done so.

Much of the controversy has emerged as a result of the new features implemented in the past month, including the "News Feed" feature, which enables everyone to see who you hooked up with last weekend, whose birthday party you plan to attend, what movie you decided you liked or what Facebook group protesting the new Facebook you just joined.

"This is shit," senior Campbell Jamieson said. "I learned about my friend's hickey on his 'Mini-Feed.'"

The booming website created by Harvard dropout Mark Zuckerberg has been continuously expanding its borders over the past year to include high school and middle school students and even those people with certain business e-mail accounts.

According to many students, things went too far last Tuesday when the company made the social networking site available to anybody with a valid e-mail address. Although the company did implement increased security and profile invisibility controls, many students felt that the site lost what set it apart from other social websites.

"Facebook is now pretty much just a lame MySpace, and you can't even customize your page," sophomore Kate Matthews said. "[Expanding it to everyone] is stupid; there are already enough lurkers in college."

The general reactions among students have been largely negative, both at the College and worldwide. The number of global Facebook groups protesting the new changes has skyrocketed. At the College, students have responded by tightening or eliminating certain features. "I changed things because they're opening it up to anyone," junior Summer Marion said. "I took out personal and contact information. I untagged some pictures that other people had tagged of me."

Students have also commented on how the origi-

nal ideas and appeal of the website have changed. "I'm surprised that they went public," Matthews said. "Everybody used to have to wait for college so they could get Facebook. Now, it's just not that special anymore."

Getting rid of Facebook seems to be easier said than done for most students, who rely on the website to put off torturous nightmares such as Organic Chemistry, Comp Sci 131 or Flatwater Canoeing. The new changes have nevertheless increased apprehension about who might be looking at your profile — besides the usual stalkers in the back of your economics class.

Adding to the uncertainty are the recent reports that Facebook is taking part in ongoing negotiations with Yahoo! for an outright sale, similar to News Corp.'s purchase of MySpace in the summer of 2005 [see FACEBOOK, page 1]. Many students felt it was unclear what effect a corporate-linked Facebook, if it happens at all, would have on their use of the website and the site's design.

"[The effect of the sale] all depends on what the terms of the deal are, and whether they keep it the same way or not," Matthews said.

Marion said that the new management would have to take the online networking giant in a different direction. "They would have to make a lot of changes," she said. "They couldn't use the same PR plan that they've been using."

Junior Saul Mutchnick said that although he had disabled almost everything on his "Mini-Feed," he thought it was still possible to provide input for improvements to the company. "I think they're still looking for suggestions [to improve the site]," he said.

Marion said that from a business perspective, she understands why Facebook might expand its membership to anyone with an e-mail address. "I think it would be easy for Facebook to stagnate because they had a big boom at first, and now they have to get new marketing ploys," she said. "I think it's cool that it was started by college kids, and I think [if it was sold] it would lose it's appeal."

It is uncertain how many members Facebook will gain as a result of expanding its membership options to a wider variety of people and, likewise, how many current users will opt to delete their profiles in response to the changes. The site's addictively popular nature, however, seems unlikely to change.

Charles Center Information Sessions

National Security Education Program Scholarship

Want to study abroad - and study language - in
Eastern Europe, Asia, Africa, or Latin America?

Thursday, October 5
4:00-5:00 pm

Charles Center Lounge, Tucker Hall

State Department Internships

Thinking about applying for a State Department
internship? Come to an information session!

Thursday, October 5
5:00-6:00 PM
Tyler 102

Limited space — please sign up for this
session at www.wm.edu/charlescenter

Please call 221-2460 for more information

REVIEWS



Dustin Diamond’s
sexcapades enough to
make anyone screech.
See Gossip, page 15.

Luda matures with ‘Therapy’

By PAT WALSH
THE FLAT HAT

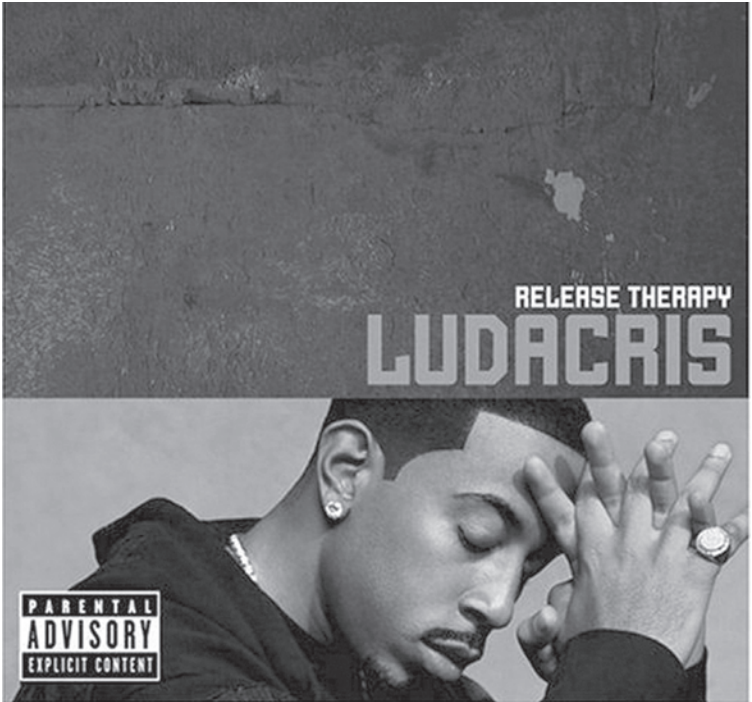
In an industry where new talent is constantly showcased in search of the next Tupac or Dre, most hip-hop veterans never achieve the notoriety they deserve. Breakout artists like Lupe Fiasco and Pharrell may genuinely influence the rap world, but there is still something to be said for older artists who really understand how to play the game. Chris Bridges, better known as Ludacris, is one of several key artists whose long-term success in both music and film is due to his ability to stay focused and true to himself.

Six years ago Ludacris lit the rap world on fire with his debut album “Back for the First Time.” Independently produced out of his own pocket, the album carried a sound that had not been heard since Outkast tore out of Atlanta in 1994. His first single, “What’s Your Fantasy,” which remains one of Luda’s most popular, was responsible for shooting him to mainstream success and planting his feet firmly on the ground. It was the establishment of his “Disturbing Tha Peace” Record Label in 2002 and the surprising success of his next three albums, however, that cemented his image as an idol.

“Release Therapy,” Luda’s fifth full-length album, shares with his previous workss the elements that make Ludacris so popular: intricate beats, substantive rhymes and a voice overflowing with power and confidence. However, this new record brings a little more to the table. As he says himself in his introductory track, “Warning,” the album is best defined by the sentence, “the thoughts and views expressed on this album are direct reflections of a new generation.” It is apparent on this album that Ludacris raps with a fresh passion that stems from his dedication to his young daughter. More than anything else, the title itself reveals that Luda uses this opportunity to vent, to be real and to express his own thoughts and opinions.

Despite his newfound maturity, Ludacris has no intention of isolating fans used to his hypnotic dance tracks. The first single, “Money Maker,” as well as the track “Girls Gone Wild,” are of the Ludacris that radio listeners are used to hearing. Produced by The Neptunes and even featuring lyrical help from Pharrell, these two tracks are sure to grab attention. Luda also plays the romantic, employing the help of R. Kelly and Bobby Valentino on two songs specifically aimed at pleasing the opposite sex. The tracks, “End of the Night” and “Woogy” follow slow beats that certainly set the

See LUDA + page 15



COURTESY PHOTO • DEF JAM RECORDS

NBC’s ‘Heroes’ needs savior

By VANESSA VANLANDINGHAM
FLAT HAT COPY EDITOR

After a shaky beginning, NBC’s new show, “Heroes,” concluded with strong dashes of somewhat intriguing mediocrity. Its multiple characters aren’t terribly complex, just, for the most part, uninteresting. The show centers on several people who have extraordinary abilities, as well as one man who is out to prove that humans are evolving into a new race, and these people are just the first of many.

I had high hopes for this show, especially since one of its stars is Milo Ventimiglia, the famed Jess on “Gilmore Girls.” Unfortunately, I keep forgetting that the poor boy has hit-or-miss acting skills. Ventimiglia plays Peter Petrelli, a kindly nurse for the elderly who has lived his life in the shadow of his older brother Nathan. Peter keeps having crazy dreams in which he jumps off buildings. Sometimes he flies, sometimes he falls, but every time it is a bit dull to watch. Peter may be convinced that he can fly, but when he unsuccessfully attempts to do so by jumping from the roof of a skyscraper, his brother swoops in for the save. That’s right, Nathan outdoes Peter again. He can fly, but can Peter? And do

we even care?

Ali Larter (“A Lot Like Love”) plays another lead in the “Heroes” cast. Her character, Niki Sanders, is a woman beset by financial trouble. She strips down online for \$39 an hour, but still can’t seem to make ends meet — go figure. But Niki’s mirror holds a violent reflection with a mind and life of its own. One afternoon, bill collectors come to Niki’s house and get a little rough. Niki is knocked unconscious and, when she wakes up, both men are lying on the ground, grotesquely murdered. As Niki’s eye is caught by a shattered mirror, the reflection coyly puts its finger on its lips in a weird, creepy, shushing motion.

Mohinder Suresh, played by Sendhil Ramamurthy (“Numb3rs”), adds another strange personality to the show’s growing list. Suresh is the son of a genetic code researcher whose lifetime was spent in the search of “patient zero,” the first mutated being. However, after his father is murdered in a seemingly random hate crime, Suresh moves to New York City to find the truth. He follows in his father’s footsteps and gives up his professorship in India, gathers his father’s files, moves to New York and takes up taxi cab operation. He even chooses to live in the very



COURTESY PHOTO • COLUMBIA PICTURES

Sean Penn (LEFT) stars as Willie Stark, a gubernatorial hopeful who falls into manipulative traps, in “All the King’s Men.” The movie, based on the book by Robert Penn Warren, is a remake of a 1949 film of the same name. The original won three Academy Awards, including Best Picture.

EVEN PENN CAN’T RESCUE ‘ALL THE KING’S MEN’

By BETH SUTHERLAND
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

Earning a paltry \$3,800,000 in its opening week, Steven Zallian’s “All the King’s Men” disappoints. Not nearly as exciting as it makes itself out to be, the film is obnoxious when it should be subtle and vague when it should be elaborate. Moments of worth appear occasionally, but they seem only to originate straight from Robert Penn Warren’s Pulitzer Prize-winning novel and the eloquence it brings to the table, and not from the film itself.

Though it misses the mark, the movie still addresses an ever-poignant topic: politics as a dangerous game. Idealism without pragmatism often meets a tragic end. This is why Sean Penn’s (“Mystic River”) Willie Stark is such a compelling character. Loosely based on Louisiana politician Huey Long, Stark is a regular hick with a heart of gold, who, upon finding that he is being politically manipulated, decides to pursue the office of governor on his own. He espouses a radically populist platform, beginning his rapid ascent with the noblest intentions.

Or does he? The problem with this new adaptation is its muddy characterization: it is obvious that Stark relaxes his formerly tenacious grip on personal morality as he climbs the political ladder, but his ideals seem to remain the same. Perhaps the film is truer to life in this sense; people aren’t easily placed in boxes — now innocent, now corrupt. The truth is, the audience does not know what to think of Stark throughout the duration of the

film. Is his involvement in politics changing him for the worse, or vice versa? Is it changing him at all, or simply providing a forum for his ambition? Is Willie Stark ever bad? Is he ever good? It would be easy to excuse this ambiguity as depth, but, really, it just comes off as artistic sloppiness.

Penn’s powerful performance feeds right into this confusion. He never fails to hold viewers’ attention. At the same time, his southern drawl is a bit forced, and the whole interpretation mightily overbearing. One minute he is a saint — the next, a devil. Though he never loses his ideals, it is both interesting and heartbreaking to watch Stark morally disintegrate as he is disillusioned (symbolized by his transition from teetotaler to boozier, extramarital flings and blackmail gone horribly wrong). Continuous flashbacks to his rousing, populist speeches persist in reminding us, though, that he is no villain.

Even if the viewer is unsure how to feel about Penn’s performance, He at least manages to win and retain attention every time he is on screen. The same cannot be said for his considerable list of costars. The impressive cast list makes it quite clear that this film was expected to make more of a splash than it did. Jude Law (“Alfie”) plays his typical character role, and Mark Ruffalo (“Just Like Heaven”) does the same; will we ever see anything new from these guys? Kate Winslet (“Titanic”) is insufferably dull, bordering on bad, and Anthony Hopkins (“Silence of the Lambs”) is underused. Their characters may just be suffering the results of a clumsily handled set of subplots, ones that weren’t as well

connected to Stark’s tale as they could have been. The secondary characters are simply not multilayered or interesting. Jack Burden (Jude Law) comes closer than any other character to achieving real depth. He has been raised with the burden of wealth and now takes on the social and political burdens of supporting Stark, to whom he is inexplicably drawn. His character occasionally interesting, but it is his words that shine.

The most redeeming element of this film is that it reminds us there is a book. Warren’s novel is the source of the film’s eloquence, and while the movie is visually appealing, the poetry of the characters’ lines moves the audience in a more meaningful way. No matter how a viewer feels about Penn or Stark, the power of his rhetoric is almost overwhelming when he yells, “You don’t vote, you don’t matter!” Like Stark’s speeches, the movie sports plenty of religious imagery. Stark asks for the hammer to “nail up” the politicians that come between the common folk and what they need. Twice, Stark and Burden drive past sets of roadside crosses. One set would have been enough, and, with the second, once again the movie feels forced.

In spite of its weaknesses, “All the King’s Men” possesses a certain foreboding — a rapidly mounting tension — that makes it worth seeing. If it fell short of the greatness to which it aspired, it brings contemplation and exploration where there might otherwise have been another worthless chick flick. The movie is worth seeing; but a far more rewarding experience would be to pop some microwave popcorn and curl up with the book.

Swift Strokes light up Norva

By DAN IRISH
THE FLAT HAT

Arriving at the Norva, Norfolk’s concert mainstay, with fifteen minutes until concert time, I wondered if maybe I had bought tickets for some other band named The Strokes. The line that extended three blocks for the Academy Is... / Panic! At the Disco double billing last year was now non-existent and, until New York City’s finest took the stage around 10 p.m., the beer-soaked floor remained quiet. The venue provided the opener — in this case, an unremarkable band called Copper Sails who were intent on closed-eye swaying throughout their set. The Strokes came out affably, sans hipster suits and hipster attitudes, and genuinely seemed surprised at the ear-splitting cheers from the crowd — and ear-splitting may be a tad polite. The crowd was louder than the one Fall Out Boy pulled at the Norva two years ago. At first, the cramped stage seemed an unlikely place for a band that has rocked millions of fans around the world, but frontman Julian Casablancas assured the fans that “this is how we like it ... lights and a small venue.” Wasting no time at all, they started with “You Only Live Once,” the first song on “First Impressions of Earth,” their most recent album. The light display was the only set decoration, not counting the red Solo cups from which Casablancas sipped all night.

Despite receiving mixed reviews upon its initial release, “Impressions” sounded great live, with Casablancas’ raspy wail layered behind the wall of dual guitar attack from Nick Valensi on lead and Albert Hammond, Jr. on rhythm. Gems from The Strokes’ early days peppered

their 15-song set, including “Hard to Explain,” “Someday” and “Last Nite.” The night’s best, however, were the razor-edged, distorted build of “Vision of Division,” and the full-bodied crowd shout-along, “Reptilia.” The former featured top-notch musicianship, with the instrumentalists fully focused on their parts, leaving Casablancas front and center, eyes wide, screaming “How long must I wait” with all the vigor of the tortured man from the song’s lyrics. Reptilia” sounds more full-bodied and raw live, and the crowd writhed and shook in anticipation for the final, block-busting chorus.

Throughout the whole set, Valensi took swigs from a bottle of champagne, drummer Fabrizio Moretti smoked while playing, Hammond assumed his unorthodox high-strumming pose (although his trademark ‘fro was noticeably trimmed) and bassist Nikolai Fraiture did what he does best: hide behind his long hair while providing an unassuming, yet decidedly heavy, groove. The Strokes then bounded offstage, leaving the crowd sweaty, but not quite ready for them to leave.

After three minutes of shouting, the band ambled back in and won over the crowd yet again with a rousing, snarling rendition of their anti-police basher “New York City Cops,” which, until this tour, had rarely been played live. “Take It or Leave It” closed their encore, leaving the crowd’s collective faces sufficiently melted. After a bow, with Moretti still smoking, The Strokes were done. Despite the hefty ticket price (upwards of \$30), seeing a legendary band like The Strokes in a small club at the height of their career will remain one of my favorite concert memories. And I’ve seen Springsteen.



SINGLED OUT
Jim Noir — “My Patch”
From his *Tower of Love* LP

How did we all miss this guy? Jim Noir released this, his debut album, way back in February of this year, and by all accounts should be a superstar. His mix of indie-pop, freak folk and Beatles-esque vocal harmonies delights, blowing other experimental brits like Super Furry Animals out of the water.

— compiled by conor mckay

WCWM TOP 10 ALBUMS

1. *Monsieur Gainsbourg Revisited* — Various Artists
2. *The Air Force* — Xiu Xiu
3. *Bliss!* — The Positions
4. *Born Sandy Devotional* — The Triffids
5. *Tam* — Tam
6. *The Sun Awakens* — Six Organs of Admittance
7. *Caught Landing* — Fiel Garvie
8. *Masters of Old-Time Country Autoharp* — Various Artists
9. *Cansei de Ser Sexy* — CSS
10. *Denies the Day's Demise* — Daedelus

HOLLYWOOD

GOSSIP

That’s how Aaron ditched Peniche

Aaron Carter is too young for marriage. The singer ditched former Miss Teen USA and Playboy model Kari Ann Peniche after a nine-day engagement. The 18 year-old pop star popped the question to Peniche, age 22 on stage at the Playboy Hollywood Comedy Tour in Las Vegas. “I got caught up in the moment ... it was a hasty thing to do and I am not ready for marriage quite yet.” Aaron is not the first Carter to play games with Kari’s heart. She previously dated Nick Carter.



Full throttle flashback

It was almost as if Cameron Diaz was one of Charlie’s angels again — but the car zooming towards her and boyfriend Justin Timberlake was no movie stunt. According to Diaz, a photographer got in his car and drove full throttle toward her and Timberlake. Princess Fiona has filed charges against the photographer for assault with a deadly weapon. Before you wish you weren’t in her shoes, though, rumor has it that Timberlake may have popped the question to his seniorita.



Martha’s recipe calls for Eminem

The queen of cakes and cookies doesn’t need M&M’s — she wants the real Slim Shady. Yes, Martha Stewart has asked rapper Eminem to leave 8 Mile to appear on her TV show, “Martha.” Apparently, Stewart’s studio would feel so empty without Eminem — his music is played during breaks to “keep people very lively,” Stewart said. No word on whether the rapper has accepted the invite, but if he does, maybe Martha will help him clean out his closet.



Saved by the sex tape?

After recently proclaiming that he was broke, “Saved by the Bell” star Dustin Diamond has made news again, this time following in the footsteps of Paris Hilton. In a more risqué plot for cash then even Zach Morris would have thought up, Diamond’s sex tape reportedly features him with two women. “Dustin has been trying to escape the Screech typecast. So this may help me get more bookings,” said manager Roger Paul.

— compiled by megan doyle

WCWM 90.9 FM
FALL 2006
PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

Mid.-2 a.m.: James Chase Coleman
“Freedom of Music”
2-4 p.m.: Anne Gessler
“Music from Under Anne’s Bed”
4-6 p.m.: Mika Mason
“Naive Melody”
6-8 p.m.: Barbara Zidek
8-10 p.m.: Matt Sherrill
“Stop Drop and Soul”

10 p.m. - Mid.: Chris Larkum
“100% Natural, Good Time Family Hour”

MONDAY

6-8 p.m.: Jacob Charron
“A Veritable Cornucopia of Sound”
8-10 p.m.: Diane O’neal
10 p.m. - Mid.: Rob Simmons
“Continuum Presents”

TUESDAY

2-4 p.m.: Evan Feldman
“Colonial Classics”
4-6 p.m.: Kate Leary
6-8 p.m.: Sean Donnelly
“Measured Measures”
8-10 p.m.: Drew Taylor
“The Gilded Palace of Sin”
10 p.m. - Mid.: Josh Specht and David Sievers

WEDNESDAY

10-Noon: Graham DeZarn
12-2 p.m.: Emily Flowers
“World Music”
2-3 p.m.: Eric Van Orman
4-6 p.m.: Michelle Kelley
“Jojo’s Punk Rock Hour”
6-8 p.m.: John Bell
“Alphabet Soup”
8-10 p.m.: Claire White

“Soundgasm”

10 p.m. - Mid.: Brian Kelley
“Cadmium’s Last Stand”

THURSDAY

6-8 p.m.: Natt Blair
“The Conspiracy to Keep You Poor and Stupid”
10 p.m.-12: Taurin Barrera
“Nasty Boy Remix”

FRIDAY

2-4 p.m.: Patrick Donaldson
“Shakedown Street”
5-6 p.m.: Sandy Lesberg
“Sandy Lesberg’s World”
8-10 p.m.: Rob Simmons
“Pre-Game Show”

SATURDAY

2-4 p.m.: Andy Beers and David McClendon

“The Massive

Saxophone”
4-6 p.m.: Devin Oller
“Word Play”
6-8 p.m.: M.A. Rodabaugh
“Mood Swing”
8-10 p.m.: Josh Allen
“All Your Base Are Belong To Us”
10 p.m.-12.: Adam Kane

Violence prevails in ‘Proposition’

By CHAS TYSON
THE FLAT HAT

“The Proposition,” a new film, depicts of early-colonial Australia. The film also creates a feeling all moviegoers crave: the sensation that the viewer is part of the action.

The title is in reference to Charlie Burns (Guy Pearce, “Memento”), the middle brother of the Burns family and a member of the Burns Gang. He must kill his oldest brother or his youngest brother will be hanged on Christmas Day. This ultimatum is set by Captain Stanley (Ray Winstone, “King Arthur”), a newly-installed sheriff of an outback town, in revenge for the murder and rape of a local family. From this point, the plot splits into two stories: Captain Stanley’s anxiety in response to pressure from citizens and the agony of Burns over his decision to kill his brother.

The film’s most astonishing accomplishment is its cinematography. Every drop of sweat and every speck of dirt is vividly real to us. The townspeople are greasy, covered in flies and apathetic to their state. The outlaws speak through cigarette-stained teeth, spit flying from their mouths. The authentic and function as an essential part of the film. This portrayal of early Australia is mesmerizing; we truly grasp that we are taking a tour of one of the harshest places on earth.

The acting is excellent. Although Pearce gets top billing because he is the most well known, his

scenes hold little complexity. Many feature just him, silent and in anguish. Winstone plays the much tougher role of a police commandant and does a good job with it. His performance may seem subdued and muted at times, but he is only trying to evoke the character’s low self-confidence and general nervousness. He never overplays it and shines, even while delivering some of the trickier lines. John Hurt (“V for Vendetta”) shows up as a racist bounty hunter, giving a spectacular performance in a well-written part. Emily Watson (“Punch-Drunk Love), playing the wife of Captain Stanley, is also good, although her character’s whining may irritate viewers.

Music is a major part of the film; after all, the script was written by a musician. Nick Cave and Warren Ellis enrich the movie with their wonderful score, employing the piano, violin and mandolin to convey the feeling of old Australia.

Violence is central in this grisly and gruesome film. By my count, 10 violent deaths appear onscreen, along with a multitude of disgusting injuries and dead bodies. It probably deserved worse than the “R” rating with which it managed to escape. All the blood and gore create a feeling of desperation and relentless brutality throughout the movie.

“The Proposition” portrays the struggle for existence: men, animals and plants are all in it together in 19th century Australia. The harder life gets, the more beast-like the men become. The land and climate warp the characters, leaving violence as their only option.

me / Pickin up my sloppy seconds
as they reach for the crown / Only
reason you on that song because I
turned that down.”

Still other tracks rely less on speaking Luda’s greatness and more on spinning some truth. “Tell It Like It Is” and “Do Your Time” paint a very honest picture about the trials and tribulations of the rap game as well as life inside prison and the bias imprinted on black inmates. Ludacris feels particularly strong about making these realities known to the public. “I know a few guys who are in prison, and jail isn’t something that should be celebrated. There are so many black men in jail, and not all of them are guilty. We have to start thinking about these statistics, and figure out if anything can be done,” he has said.

Finally, there is the song “Runaway Love,” featuring the ever-popular Mary J. Blige. This

track is a tribute to his daughter and is demonstrative of his unstated promise to be a dedicated father. With rough, sometimes graphic images of child abuse, the song encourages all of its listeners to help those who have no way of helping themselves.

This record presents an older, more experienced Ludacris. Though only 28, a quote from his official website shows maturity does not escape him: “Maturity is a beautiful thing. Going into the studio to make ‘Release Therapy,’ I felt like a wiser, more intelligent person. That was part of the vibe I wanted to bring across on the record, a more personal side that many have not seen. I know this is my fifth album, but I feel as though this is the first time I’ve ever exposed this much of myself. Like the film ‘Crash,’ people can either love me or hate me, but they’ll always respect me.”

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